Muppets Present "The Great Gatsby"

written by

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Based on *The Muppets* created by

Jim Henson

Based on *The Great Gatsby* written by

F. Scott Fitzgerald

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OPEN ON GREEN:

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
In my younger and more vulnerable years, my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.
"Whenever you feel like criticizing any one," he told me, *"just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had."*

TITLE

FADE TO:

EXT. MANHATTAN ISLAND - MORNING

We see Manhattan Island in a stunning, early morning glow. Golden sunlight beams off giant, twenty story skyscrapers.

SAM EAGLE flies by in a propeller plane, a 48 star American flag waving from the aircraft's rear.

SAM EAGLE
There it is Mr. Carraway, New York - A city made for capitalism and therefore America!

In his backseat is NICK CARRAWAY (29), an easy going man still carrying the optimism of a boy in his smile.

NICK CARRAWAY
Well, let's get a closer look.

Sam pulls down and we now see RIZZO the rat (known here as Fitz) and GONZO (known here as Gerald) gripping to the wings.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
Fitz! Gerald! You okay up there?

Gonzo and Rizzo hesitantly nod their heads but soon scream as Sam plummets the plane down towards the city streets.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Muppets of all shapes and sizes dance about as Wall Street men and flapper girls step joyously through the street.

The song they *sing* is called "New Money, Old Money."

MUPPET BANKER
(singing)
I moved to city on money I had -
they call me old mo-ney.

MUPPET FLAPPER
I lived in the city, got rich off a
bet - they call me new mo-ney.

CHORUS
No matter how we got our cash -
it's ours now, we're gonna let it
flash!

The chorus members all hold up dollar bills and fling them into the air, dancing about wildly as cash rains down on men and women counting their own money as they pass.

INT. EXPENSIVE THINGS STORE - CONTINUOUS

A MUPPET BUSINESS MAN bursts into the *Expensive Things Store*.

MUPPET BUSINESS MAN
I'll take all of your wares!

A HIGH SOCIETY MOUSE enters through a smaller door.

HIGH SOCIETY MOUSE
I'll have the most expensive dress!

EXT. TIMES SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

BOBO THE BEAR sits in a fancy new automobile that leans under his massive weight.

BOBO THE BEAR
Does this come in a size that fits
bears?

The right tire blows out under his weight SHOOTING the auto salesman back into a pile of SINGING BRIEFCASES that hum like a barbershop quartet.

A MONOCLE MUPPET leaking coins out his pockets, runs into the center of Times Square. He huffs and puffs in heaves.

MONOCLE MUPPET
HELP! HELP! I'M IN DISTRESS!

The music stops and everyone looks at the Monocle Muppet.

He holds up nearly twenty shopping bags.

MONOCLE MUPPET (CONT'D)
I bought too much to carry, can I pay someone to help me?

The music kicks in again and several shoeshine boys rush forward to help with the bags.

MUPPET BANKER
The new money looks up to me but old money is my friend.

MUPPET FLAPPER
The old money looks down on me but new money keeps me free.

MUPPET FLAPPER (CONT'D)
One thing's for sure, these good times are never gonna end!

MUPPET BANKER
One thing's for sure, these good times are never gonna end!

Sam's plane pulls down and lands in the middle of Time's Square. Nick steps out with the wind blown Gonzo and Rizzo trailing behind him.

He looks around the city with an unmatched wonder, acting as if the sight of each skyscraper and expensive automobile were the first he had ever seen.

Nick begins narrating.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
New York City had all the iridescence of the beginning of the world. This was the greatest nation and there was gala in the air for the summer of 1922.

Rizzo and Gonzo look in confusion at Nick.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The Great War was over and America's victory party only grew year after year.

Unlike Nick, Rizzo speaks out loud.

RIZZO
Gerald... Gerald what's he doing?

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
My friends Fitz and Gerald had come east with me to see if America had hit a peak.

GONZO
(blunt)
I think he's inner monologuing.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Was there satisfaction in the constant flicker of men and women and machines that was given to the restless eye or would I be haunted by the wasting of this city's most poignant moments.

RIZZO
Nick knows he can just talk to us, right?

GONZO
I don't think he wants to, it's part of his character.

Nick jumps up, grabbing onto a street light and spinning round as he sings to the citizens of Manhattan.

NICK CARRAWAY
New, old, east, west, I just want you to know me best.
My name is Nick Carraway!

CHORUS
His name is Nick Carraway!

NICK CARRAWAY
This city's gonna carry-me-away.
In her streets.
In her skies.
I've kept receipts.
Cause I won the prize!
This city is gonna know my name.

CHORUS
Nick Carraway!
Welcome to fame!
Nick Carraway - now there's a name!
Old money, new - we just wanna know you!
We wanna know you!

The dancers hit a triumphant end pose and suddenly carry on with their business as if the choreographed number had never happened, some even bump into Nick and respond rudely.

RUDE MUPPET
Watch it bozo, don't you know who I am?

Nick smiles at the city as he walks back over to Sam and begins another inner monologue.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
It was the city seen for the first time, in its first wild promise of all the mystery and the beauty in the world.

Sam observes Nick's pensive face as he continues to inner monologue.

RIZZO
Nick...

Nick stares off in the distance.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
But my home would not be in this marvelous city, the boys and I had secured a cottage out on Long Island where--

RIZZO
NICK!

Nick snaps out of his trance and looks to Rizzo and Gonzo.

GONZO
Nick, he can't hear your thoughts - you have to speak out loud.

Nick turns to Sam as if Gonzo hadn't said anything.

NICK CARRAWAY
Take us to Long Island please.

Sam looks dumbfounded.

SAM EAGLE
Why did you have me land in Manhattan if you were just headed to Long Island?

GONZO
To be fair, we did have to symbolically depict New York City's greed and excess somehow, a song and dance number seemed reasonable.

RIZZO
Yeah, New York is on the poster! The movie's gotta open in the city!

SAM EAGLE
Well, The Muppets Take Manhattan didn't.

Nick, Rizzo and Gonzo stare silently.

Sam sighs and opens the plane's door.

SAM EAGLE (CONT'D)
Next stop, Long Island.

EXT. OVER QUEENS - DAY

Sam's plane flies over the VALLEY OF THE ASHES in Queens, a loathsome industrial sight devoid of any color but lifeless grey. Glaring up at them are the EYES OF DOCTORS T.J. AND ECKLEBURG, a worn billboard featuring the spectacled eyes of the two elderly Muppets STATLER and WALDORF.

SAM EAGLE
Where shall I be landing?

NICK CARRAWAY
West Egg please, right across from East Egg. You see west is for new money and east is for old money.

SAM EAGLE
(groaning)
Ugh, symbolism.

He plummets the plane down again, drawing more screams from Gonzo and Rizzo as they grip desperately to the wings.

The ominous laughter of Statler and Waldorf echoes on the wind.

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - DAY

The trio wave as Sam's plane takes off into the sky again, leaving them with their luggage outside Nick's new home.

NICK CARRAWAY
Welcome home gents.

Gonzo and Rizzo turn to see a GIANT MANSION looming in the distance, the size and grandeur of the structure leaves them in awe.

Marble fountains.

Greek statues that turn and wave.

Gardens of singing flowers calling out to them.

RIZZO
This... This is our home?

Rizzo and Gonzo SCREAM in joy and run forward.

RIZZO (CONT'D)
I call top bunk!

GONZO
Fitz, I think there's gonna be more than one bedroom.

NICK CARRAWAY
(laughing)
Boys, boys! That isn't our house.

Both hesitantly turn.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
This one is ours.

Nick motions to a humble cottage nestled beside the massive mansion estate.

Gonzo and Rizzo sigh.

GONZO
Oh... That's nice too, I guess.

RIZZO
I still call top bunk.

Nick walks over to his mailbox and sees a much larger mailbox beside it adorned with a green "G."

NICK CARRAWAY
That large mansion belongs to a fella named...

He reaches inside and pulls out a letter addressed to **Mr. Gatsby the Frog**. The letter reads:

DEAR MR GATSBY: WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT THE RIGHTS TO YOUR NAMESAKE NOVEL "*THE GREAT GATSBY*" HAVE FALLEN INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, MEANING THAT ANYONE CAN NOW ADAPT THIS AMERICAN LITERARY CLASSIC.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
Gatsby... A Mr. Gatsby the Frog.

Nick glances up with interest at the massive mansion.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
I wonder what kind of a man Mr. Gatsby is.

GONZO
Technically he's a frog.

Nick's eyes zero in on the massive windows of Gatsby's home. A lone curtain is drawn open, could someone be watching?

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
All this money, all this property - but are you in there alone right now, do you have anyone to share it with?

RIZZO
He's inner monologuing again.

GONZO
Just unpack, we'll snap him out of it if he's still going by dinner.

Beep! Beep! - The two look over and see Nick entering a taxi.

RIZZO
Nick! Nick, where you going?

Nick holds the door open for them.

NICK CARRAWAY
All this talk of excess and meaningless wealth got me thinking we should pay a visit to my cousin Daisy. She's across the bay in West Egg, old money - you know the type.

GONZO
Ugh, symbolism.

The two stand for a moment, staring at the open taxi door.

NICK CARRAWAY
They'll have food.

Gonzo and Rizzo rush forward.

RIZZO
Well, why didn't you say so?

GONZO
I like this cousin of yours!

They jump in and the cab takes off.

EXT. BUCHANAN MANSION - AFTERNOON

We push in on an aerial view of a plantation style home on the bay's edge, a green lighthouse shines dimly before it.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Daisy was my second cousin once removed and I'd known her husband Tom in college. Tom was a college football star, one of those men who reach such an acute limited excellence at 21 that everything afterward savors of anti-climax.

Rizzo's voice breaks in.

RIZZO (V.O.)
Is Nick inner-monologuing or speaking right now, I can't tell.

GONZO (V.O.)
Fitz, this is just an establishing shot - don't overthink it.

A man appears to be playing a physical game with a few tall figures in the front lawn.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
His family were enormously wealthy. Even in college his freedom with money was a matter for reproach.

On the lawn we see TOM BUCHANAN (30), a hulking brute of a man with a thick moustache that looks as it were made of straw, tackling a pony Muppet dressed in leather football gear. Tom takes the football and barrels past two other ponies as he crosses the end zone.

Tom kisses the ball and KICKS it into the sky.

TOM BUCHANAN
I am still the BEST! WOOOO!

Nick and the others exit the cab as the ball suddenly hurtles down on a crash course with Gonzo.

Gonzo screams and runs about in zig-zags.

BALL POV: WE SEE FROM THE BALL'S FALLING POV AS IT TRACKS GONZO, FOLLOWING HIS PATH EXACTLY AS HE MADLY RUNS ABOUT.

Rizzo laughs until the ball suddenly takes a sharp turn and SLAMS into him.

TOM BUCHANAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Well, if it isn't Nate Corningware!

Nick walks to Tom out on the yard.

NICK CARRAWAY
Hello Tom. These are my friends,
Fitz and Gerald.

He points back behind him. Gonzo waves while Rizzo's tail sticks up from inside a smoldering crater.

Nick steps forward, shaking Tom's muddy hand.

TOM BUCHANAN
Neil, did you see me make that touchdown? I think I may be even better than I was in college!

NICK CARRAWAY
Richer too I imagine.

Tom lets out a bellowing laugh.

TOM BUCHANAN
You must not be doing bad yourself to make it to Long Island.
(whispered)
Even if you are living on the wesstttttt *sideeee*...

Rizzo crawls out of the crater.

RIZZO
I still don't understand the east versus west symbolism.

GONZO
We don't have time to explain it and even if we do, you'll say, "But did the author really mean that?"

TOM BUCHANAN
So, I suppose you'll be wanting to see our dear little Daisy.

INT. BUCHANAN SITTING ROOM - AFTERNOON

An elegant circular room emitting a heavenly white glow. Silk drapes flow in a gentle wind as a pink, felt hand wearing a diamond ring runs a finger over the white sofa top.

The door to the sitting room opens.

MISS DAISY
Tommy, is that you my darling?

Tom brings the boys into the sitting as Miss Piggy (known here as MISS DAISY) rises over the sofa's back.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Looking for *mwah*?

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
It was the kind of voice that the ear follows up and down as if each speech is an arrangement of notes that will never be played again.

Miss Daisy whips her hair about in SLOW MOTION, fluttering her eyelashes at CAMERA.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Her face was sad and lovely with bright things in it, bright eyes and a bright passionate mouth — but there was an excitement in her voice that men who had cared for her found difficult to forget.

The curtains flow over Daisy, obscuring her view in CAMERA.

MISS DAISY
Tommy the curtains... Tom the WIND IS TOO STRONG!

The wind blows so hard that papers and objects fly about the room as the curtains stick to Miss Daisy's body. She begins to karate chop at the silk, trying to get it off her.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Get it off! Get it OFF!

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
There was a singing compulsion, a whispered "Listen," a promise that she had done exciting things just a while since and that there were exciting things hovering in the next hour.

The wind breaks the curtains free from the wall, SLAMMING the curtain rod into Daisy, who falls with a scream to the floor.

The wind dies down and she jumps up.

MISS DAISY
Oh Nicky! Nicky, Nicky, Nicky!

Miss Daisy resumes her regal pose on the sofa and Nick walks over to kiss her hand.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Do they miss me in Chi-cago Nicky?

NICK CARRAWAY
The city is desolate without you.

MISS DAISY
Oh, I'm paralyzed with happiness.

Miss Daisy freezes in place.

Tom glances up with an eye roll as he prepares the group glasses of "juice."

Everyone stares at the frozen Miss Daisy.

RIZZO
Is she inner monologuing too?

GONZO
No, I think she's just like that.

Nick glances over the sofa and sees JORDAN BAKER (21), a tan and slender woman with intense eyes seated across from Miss Daisy. Jordan has CAMILLA THE CHICKEN sitting in her lap.

NICK CARRAWAY
(eyeing Jordan)
Who is this?

GONZO (CONT'D)
(eyeing Camilla)
Who is *this*?

Camilla lets out a snooty "BOCK" as Jordan hides a thin smile behind a handful of playing cards.

Miss Daisy breaks out of her "paralysis."

MISS DAISY
Ohhhhhh, that is Jordan Ba-ker, a very famous golferrr.

NICK CARRAWAY
Pleased to meet you.

Jordan says nothing, swirling a drink that Tom hands her.

MISS DAISY
Nicky, you two would make a very cute couple! In fact, I insist on it! I'll be...
(suddenly forceful)
LOCKING YOU IN CLOSETS AND PUSHING YOU OUT TO SEA ALL SUMMER!

Jordan sets down Camilla, who wears her own chicken feathers in a flapper headband, beside the immediately swooning Gonzo and saunters over to the window. She can see Gatsby's mansion across the bay.

JORDAN BAKER
Tell me Mr. Carraway, Daisy says you live in West Egg. What's life like on the other side?

NICK CARRAWAY
80 dollars a month rent for my little place if you can believe that. If you mean the social circle, we haven't been there long so I don't know anyone.

Jordan's eyes gleam.

JORDAN BAKER
Well, you must know Gatsby.

Miss Daisy turns with a fright and SCREAMS.

MISS DAISY
GATSBY!

Tom pours so much liquid, it flows over the glass.

Daisy huffs until she calms down and puffs up her hair while looking the other way, as if she never cared.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
What... Gatsby?

Tom stomps over and wraps a commanding hand over Nick's shoulder before he can reply.

TOM BUCHANAN
Ladies, I think it's dinner time.

INT. DINNING ROOM - NIGHT

The guests sit at the Buchanan dinner table, oddly spaced apart with Miss Daisy and Tom on opposite ends.

The SWEDISH CHEF suddenly BURSTS in, carrying a tray of chowder bowls.

SWEDISH CHEF
YAAA SMORGY BORGY, SOOPA HOOPA!

He slaps down bowls across the table.

TOM BUCHANAN
And what shall today's entrée be?

The Swedish Chef strokes his moustache and suddenly reaches for Camilla, forcefully grabbing the chicken by her neck.

Camilla bocks bloody murder until Jordan steals her back.

JORDAN BAKER
No, NO! Perhaps fish tonight?

The Swedish Chef sighs and trudges back into the kitchen, immediately returning with a fishing pole and walking outside.

MISS DAISY
He is from Swe-den.

NICK CARRAWAY
I... noticed.

Singing candles placed about the table serenade the dinner guests with peaceful humming. The ambience is broken by a shrill phone ringing that neither Miss Daisy or Tom appear to acknowledge. Tom begins loudly slurping his soup as if that'll drown out the noise.

Nick runs a spoon through his soup, but does not eat. He looks at Gatsby's house across the bay, it appears a party is going on.

Nick opens his mouth to speak, but Gonzo breaks in.

GONZO
What a beautiful home Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan. And, might I say, your daughter is as stunning as you are!

An awkward silence, Miss Daisy's face scrunches.

MISS DAISY
Daughter?... What daughter?

In the doorway, a BABY MISS PIGGY stands pouting and turns to storm off.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Sweetie! Sweetie, wait I...

Miss Daisy stands up and looks to Tom.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
(stern)
What's our baby's name?

Tom shrugs.

TOM BUCHANAN
All I know is it isn't a boy.

Miss Daisy groans and storms off, just like her daughter.

Another long pause.

Nick surveys the room before trying again.

NICK CARRAWAY
So who is Gat--

The shrill phone rings again and Tom SLAMS a fist into the table, generating a momentary yelp from the singing candles.

Each ring drives Tom into further anger.

Suddenly, the ringing stops and Tom sighs in relief.

TOM BUCHANAN
Finally.

RIZZO (O.S.)
Hello... sure.. Tom, it's for you.

Rizzo stands by the telephone, holding up the receiver.

Tom stomps over and yanks it from Rizzo's paws.

TOM BUCHANAN
I TOLD you never to call me here.

A sultry woman's voice replies on the other end.

SULTRY WOMAN (V.O.)
But Tom, I love you.

Nick and Jordan glance awkwardly at each other as Gonzo stress eats bread.

MISS DAISY (O.S.)
Honeyyy, guess what? Our daughter does have a name! It's--

She reenters the room and see Tom on the phone.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
(as low as her voice will go)
Who are you on the phone with?

Tom sweats.

TOM BUCHANAN
Quick, sound like the bear.

The sultry voice suddenly coughs and attempts the lamest impression of Fozzie Bear one can imagine.

SULTRY WOMAN (V.O.)
WAKA-WAKA, but Tommy Bear - I love you!

Dead silence as Miss Daisy taps her high heel.

TOM BUCHANAN
I'll call you back... George *Bear* Wilson, I'm gonna bring my car into the shop tomorrow - that good?

SULTRY WOMAN (V.O.)
WAKA-WAKA!

Tom slams down the receiver and looks back at Miss Daisy.

MISS DAISY
Tom Buchanan... outside, right now.

Tom reluctantly follows the order and walks out.

TOM BUCHANAN
Nick, come with me tomorrow.

NICK CARRAWAY
To take your... car into the shop?

TOM BUCHANAN
What, you got other plans with the West Egg socialites you don't know?

Miss Daisy pushes Tom outside, their silhouettes reflect in the moonlight against the window curtains and we can see Miss Daisy immediately start throwing karate kicks at Tom.

MISS DAISY (O.S.)
YOU BRUTE - YOU HULKING BRUTE!

TOM BUCHANAN (O.S.)
Don't call me that you dainty...

MISS DAISY (O.S.)
HEEE-YAAA!

Furniture crunches and glass breaks.

NICK CARRAWAY
What's that all about?

JORDAN BAKER
I thought everyone knew!
(beat)
You don't know anything, do you Mr. Carraway?

Nick raises his eyebrows at Jordan.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
That "bear" on the phone wasn't a bear at all, it was another woman.

Gonzo and Rizzo gasp and shared "No."

NICK CARRAWAY
Does Daisy know?

There is a resounding "HEE-YAA" followed by brick crumbling outside.

JORDAN BAKER
She knows enough. Is that the end of your inquires Mr. Carraway?

NICK CARRAWAY
No. The man you mentioned, Gatsby - he's my neighbor.

Jordan leans forward, her cold eyes truly locked on Nick for the first time of the night.

JORDAN BAKER
Oh, now this is interesting.

NICK CARRAWAY
Who is he?

Gonzo leans over to Camilla as Jordan begins to speak.

GONZO
Watch, we're gonna get interrupted before she can answer.

Tom and Miss Daisy reenter. He is covered in broken glass and dirt scruffs and she is huffing and puffing.

Miss Daisy turns to Nick with a joyous mood to her voice, as if the phone call/karate fight had never happened.

MISS DAISY
I love to see you at my table, Nicky. You remind me of a rose, an absolute rose!

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I am not even faintly like a rose. She was only extemporizing but a stirring warmth flowed from her as if her heart was trying to come out to you concealed in one of those breathless, thrilling words.

Tom and Miss Daisy stare at Nick, awaiting a response while he narrates in his head.

Gonzo leans over.

GONZO
Uhh, he says thanks.

TOM BUCHANAN
Boys, it is getting late and I think you should go. Nick, will I be seeing you tomorrow morning?

NICK CARRAWAY
Yeah... sure Tom.

Nick stands up with Gonzo and Rizzo and three penguin butlers approach to hand them their hats.

MISS DAISY
Nicky, I'll walk my favorite cousin to the cab. So long as Ms. Baker doesn't feel I'm stealing you away?

MS. BAKER
By all means. Have a nice night Mr. Carraway and say hello to Mr. Gatsby for me.

Miss Daisy cringes at this as she leads them outside.

EXT. BUCHANAN MANSION - CONTINUOUS

They pass butlers cleaning broken glass and busted furniture.

The Swedish Chef fishes in the distance, an obvious shark fin circling his line. It pulls him in, dragging the man out to sea with an incomprehensible Swedish scream.

MISS DAISY
Nicky?

NICK CARRAWAY
Yeah Daisy?

MISS DAISY
I call you my favorite cousin but I don't really know you! You didn't even come to my wedd-inggg.

NICK CARRAWAY
I was in the War when you married.

MISS DAISY
Hah, a World War. Can't use that excuse twice.
(beat)
Today was a bad time, wasn't it? I suppose I'm very cynical.
Do you know what I said when my baby girl was born?

Nick picks a garden flower and plucks at the petals. Gonzo and Rizzo instinctively do the same.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
The nurse told me it was a girl and I wept. I wept and said, "I hope she's a fool because that's the best thing a girl can be in this world - a beautiful little fool."

Nick hangs his head.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
The instant her voice broke off, ceasing to compel my attention, I felt the basic insincerity of what she had said. It made me uneasy, as though the whole evening had been a trick of some sort to exact a contributory emotion from me.

Miss Daisy scrunches her face at Rizzo and Gonzo.

MISS DAISY
He doesn't talk much, does he?

RIZZO
Honestly, we don't know.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I waited, and sure enough, in a moment she looked at me with an absolute smirk on her lovely face as if she had asserted her membership in a rather distinguished secret society to which she and Tom belonged.

Miss Daisy smiles.

MISS DAISY
Well mon amour, to be continued in our next issue.

Nick kisses her hand and reenters the taxi cab with Rizzo and Gonzo. The door closes and they drive off into the night.

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Nick and the boys exit the cab and walk back to the cottage.

RIZZO
Boy, that Tom sure was a jerk!

GONZO
Forget him, did you see that chicken? I felt some sparks flying between us, didn't you Nick?
(beat)
Nick?

But Nick has stopped, looking back at Gatsby's grounds.

NICK CARRAWAY
Look.

He glares out at the neighboring mansion, butlers clean the grounds as a party disperses.

The lone figure of a frog stands framed on the estate's dock.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Something in his leisurely movements and the secure position of his feet suggested that it was Mr. Gatsby himself, come out to determine what share was his of our local heavens.

Gonzo steps forward and waves.

GONZO
Hey neigh-

Nick places a finger over his beak, hushing him.

NICK CARRAWAY
That's him, that's Gatsby.

The three look in awe at the silhouette of this already legendary frog.

He's looking out at something, the green light that shines across the bay and in front of the Buchanan home.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I didn’t call to him for he gave a sudden intimation that he was content to be alone — he stretched out his arms toward the dark water in a curious way, and far as I was from him I could have sworn he was trembling. Involuntarily I glanced seaward and distinguished nothing except a single green light, minute and far away.

Nick gets lost in the allure of the green light. When he looks back, Gatsby is gone.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
When I looked once more for Gatsby he had vanished, and I was alone again in the unquiet darkness.

RIZZO
Boy, I really wish you had subtitles Nick.

Nick puts his arms around the boys and they all look out at the green light together.

EXT. VALLEY OF THE ASHES - DAY

The eyes of Doctors T.J. and Eckleburg stare out across the desolate VALLEY OF THE ASHES.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Above the grey land and the spasms of bleak dust which drift endlessly over it, you perceive, after a moment, the eyes of Doctors T.J. and Eckleburg.

While the worn, billboard art of the eyes does not move - we hear the distinct, mocking voices of Statler and Waldorf.

STATLER (V.O.)
Look T.J., here comes another one!

WALDORF (V.O.)
Hey Eckleburg, do you think he'll see us as a symbolic manifestation of the eyes of God or of the viewers themselves?

STATLER (V.O.)
I don't think he can see anything judging by his taste in fashion. A straw hat with a velvet suit! He's blinder than a Hemmingway bender!

They "Oh-ho-ho" laugh together.

Tom's automobile passes with Nick, Gonzo and Rizzo as passengers.

Nick glances back at the eyes, lost in thought.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Evidently some wild wag oculists set them there to fatten their practice in the borough of Queens, and then sank down into eternal blindness or forgot them and moved away. But their eyes, dimmed a little by many paintless days under sun and rain, brood on over the solemn dumping ground.

TOM BUCHANAN
Look ahead Nick!

NICK CARRAWAY
What's ahead to look at?

TOM BUCHANAN
The city of course! We'll stop off for a little pick-up first.

EXT. GEORGE BEAR WILSON'S GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Tom pulls into a garage home that reads "GEORGE BEAR WILSON'S JOKE GARAGE!" and dings a waiting bell.

TOM BUCHANAN
George!

Fozzie Bear (known here as GEORGE BEAR WILSON) runs out.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Ahhhh, Mr. Buchanan! Stopping in for some repairs!

TOM BUCHANAN
Of course, I need my...

Tom searches the car for the first reply he can think of.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
My horn, I need my horn fixed.

George walks over and honks Tom's external horn - it works just fine.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Ahhhh, I see the prob-lem.

George holds up a rubber chicken and whoopie cushion.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON (CONT'D)
Would you prefer rubber chicken or whoopieee cushion, ayyy?

RIZZO
Whoopie.

GONZO
Chicken.

Tom opens his car door and walks towards the Wilson garage.

TOM BUCHANAN
You know best George, I trust you.

George gets to work as Tom, with a growing smile, nears the worn down shack.

A woman built like a brickhouse with caked on make-up and wearing an excessive Friday night party dress (despite it being early morning) leans against the doorway.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
Hello Myrtle.

MYRTLE WILSON (36) smiles back.

MYRTLE WILSON
Well hi there.

She leans into Tom now, sharing a hard and passionate kiss.

Nick glances back at George who is obliviously duck taping the rubber chicken to Tom's car in place of the horn.

Myrtle continues her passionate embrace with Tom.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
There was an immediately perceptible vitality about this woman, as if the nerves of her body were continually smoldering.

Tom walks Myrtle back to the car.

Rizzo stares in confusion.

RIZZO
Wait... that's not Miss Daisy.

GONZO
Fitz, why do we keep having these exposition scenes if you're not even going to try and keep up?

Tom opens the car door and Myrtle, not looking, crushes Rizzo as she sits down. He cries out in muffled screams.

GONZO (CONT'D)
Well that's one way to shut him up.

George tests the new rubber chicken horn and looks up, seeing Myrtle in the car.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Ho-ney, what are you doing in Mr. Buchanan's car?

MYRTLE WILSON
Oh, Tom here is headed into the city and you know I like to see my sister on Sundays. You're so busy with the shop that I don't want to be a bother.

George looks around at the desolate, empty wasteland before observing Tom for a moment. The bear leans his face into his whoopie cushion, releasing a prolonged "poot."

The billboard eyes of the doctors glare down on him.

STATLER (V.O.)
You fool, she's in love with Tom!

WALDORF (V.O.)
Of course, have you seen the bear?

They laugh together and Wilson's cushion runs out of fart.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Well I see nothing suspicious about that. Have fun my dear! Oh, and Tom! Stop by sometime and I'll show you my stand-up routine.

Tom and Myrtle burst into absurd, mocking laughter.

TOM BUCHANAN
Trust me Wilson, I've got a joke funnier than anything you have.

Tom speeds off as he honks his new rubber chicken horn over more absurd laughter.

MYRTLE WILSON
That bear is so dumb he doesn't know he's alive.

Rizzo muffles out beneath Myrtle, gasping for air.

RIZZO (V.O.)
I'M STILL ALIVE, HELP!

George blows into his whoopie cushion as he watches them go.

EXT. NEW YORK PARTY APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

A humble little party for socialites is in full swing... well, humble for these socialites.

MYRTLE WILSON
NOW THIS IS MORE LIKE IT MY DEARS!

A jazz record kicks in as Myrtle and Tom jump atop the apartment table and begin a synchronized tap dance.

Nick sips from a glass as he observes the party apartment.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
The party was really just for Tom and Myrtle, but he had invited the others because even after all the things he had bought for Myrtle - Tom still had change to spare. What is money if not for spending?

Myrtle turns around and sways her hip. A compressed Rizzo falls off her rear end and Gonzo hurries over.

GONZO
Fitz! Fitz! Are you okay?

RIZZO
Put me back.

Through a small group of five or so dancing Muppets, an oily woman just as sultry as Myrtle approaches.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Most prominent among them was Catherine, Myrtle's sister who I can describe in no other way than "worldly."

CATHERINE (30) a pale girl with sticky red hair and pencil drawn eyebrows, clinks glasses with Nick as she passes.

CATHERINE
Painfully dull party, ain't it?

Myrtle and Tom finish tapping and jump down with a thrill.

MYRTLE WILSON
Any duller and I might have actually brought George.

CATHERINE
Oh Myrtle, why did you ever marry him? No one forced you.

MYRTLE WILSON
Believe it or not, there was a time when I found him funny... once.

TOM BUCHANAN
I still find him hilarious!

Myrtle throws a drink in Tom's face as Catherine leans into Nick, flirting in a hot and breathy whisper.

CATHERINE
Neither of them can *stand* the person they're married to.

NICK CARRAWAY
Can't they?

Tom laughs.

TOM BUCHANAN
Nick, if you were any more of a fool you'd be a woman.

Myrtle refills her drink and again throws it in Tom's face.

MYRTLE WILSON
I don't leave George because... I don't know what he'd do with himself. 11 years we've lived in that garage and 11 years he's said he's gonna be a big comedian one day.

Tom unleashes an absurd, cruel laugh.

TOM BUCHANAN
And I don't leave Daisy because... I love money.
(MORE)

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
We were the prettiest and richest beaus of Louisville, it was only natural that Daisy be mine and our fortunes... be mine as well. For me... Daisy Fay Buchanan is money.

MYRTLE WILSON
(snort laugh)
Daisy! Daisy! Daisy! Is that all you talk about?

Tom bellows out another brutish laugh and walks over to the record player. He picks up the plate currently playing and SMASHES it against the wall before pulling out a new one.

TOM BUCHANAN
You know I do more than talk.

A playful, jazzy tune overtakes the room.

RIZZO
Another musical number already?

GONZO
Fitz, the entire movie is musical.

RIZZO
It's not too late to stop this.

Tom pulls out a fat wallet that is near bursting with green bills. He begins singing "It's Easy Spending Green" a song in the tune of the classic "It's Not Easy Being Green."

TOM BUCHANAN
It's easy spending green.
Having on me each day,
the color of the leaves.

Tom picks up the telephone and suddenly a parade of lobby penguins march in with various trays filled with colorful caviar, expensive jewels, and yipping Muppet puppies.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
When I think it could be nice -
I buy red or yellow or gold -
or something much more colorful
like that.

Myrtle rushes over and grabs one of the puppies, nestling it in her arms as Tom shells out "green" to the penguin.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
It's easy spending green.
It seems you bring in -
so many other extraordinary things.

Tom is shelling out cash on everything. One penguin waddles up to him with a "EVERYTHING MENU" that Tom promptly opens. Tom finger walks through it, passing such item listings as "SPIDER-MAN ACTOR" and "JAY-Z SONG LISCENING." He lands on "MUSICAL NUMBER BACK-UP DANCERS" and shells out the cash.

Almost instantly, flapper girls dressed as Lady Liberty KICK through the doorway and interlock arms with Myrtle and Catherine as Tom sings on.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
And people tend to notice you over,
cause you're standing out -
like flashy sparkles in the water
or stars in the sky.

Nick sits down, he's beginning to nod off.

GONZO
I can't tell if Nick is monologuing or just falling asleep.

RIZZO
Hey! I've got an idea.

Tom joins the dancing girls, pointing out to the fading Nick.

TOM BUCHANAN
Green is the color of Lady Liberty.
Green can buy cool, can buy friends.
Green can buy something as big as a skyscraper.
Or important as a car or copyright extension laws!

The dancers emit a "Mickey Mouse laugh" at this mention.

Rizzo flips through the "MENU."

RIZZO
No-- No-- Oh that does sound nice but no... There you are! Ooh, and one day shipping - I'll take that, Tom is buying.

Tom bellows out his final lyrics, but our focus is on the fading Nick as money, drinks, and clothes rain around him.

TOM BUCHANAN
When green is all there is to have,
it can make you wonder why!
But, why wonder? Why wonder?

Nick yawns and rests his head on a pile of money.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
I've got green, it'll do fine.
It's beautiful and it's what I want
to see!

Nick is fully asleep now.

The distant laughter of Statler and Waldorf echo in his subconscious as we...

FADE TO BLACK:

IN THE DARKNESS, WE SEE THE GREEN LIGHT - FLASHING, FLASHING

ANIMAL (V.O.)
PARTYYYY- PAR-TYY!

An attack of colorful fireworks suddenly overtakes the green light and we...

FADE INTO:

INT. NICK'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Nick groans in bed as fireworks and cheers erupt from Gatsby's mansion outside.

NICK CARRAWAY
(groggy)
What on Earth?

GONZO
Artillery! We're under attack!

Gonzo and Rizzo fall out of their bunk beds and pull World War I helmets and gear out from under the frame.

There's a knock at the door and Nick grabs his head as he gets up.

NICK CARRAWAY
Don't worry guys, just the door.

RIZZO
Ohhh, my package must be here!

Rizzo rushes past Nick as he shuffles to the door.

He jumps up and pulls the door open revealing a GATSBY BUTLER holding an envelope on a silver tray.

GATSBY BUTLER
An invitation from Mr. Gatsby.

Nick accepts the letter and opens it.

NICK CARRAWAY
"Dear Mr. Carraway, I would be honored if you could attend my little party. Yours sincerely, J. Gatsby."

GATSBY BUTLER
I'll inform the master you are on your way then.

The butler walks off.

NICK CARRAWAY
Wait!

Nick, still in his pajamas, rushes outside and kicks a box by his door in the process.

RIZZO
Yes, my package came!

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Rizzo rips the box apart as Nick catches up to the butler who pours a glass and offers it to him.

NICK CARRAWAY
Hold up now! I just came from a party, I don't need another glass - I need an aspirin.

The butler laughs.

GATSBY BUTLER
I assure you Mr. Carraway, you've never been to a party like this one.

He disappears back beyond the hedges separating the Gatsby estate and Nick's cottage. Golden light glows beyond the leaves.

Rizzo cheers triumphantly as he lifts his package.

GONZO
What'd you get?

Rizzo holds up a book copy of *The Great Gatsby*.

RIZZO
Now we can finally know what Nick is thinking!

They look up and see Nick is gone, the light of the party growing in intensity over the hedges.

GONZO
Where'd he go?

RIZZO
Hold on, I can find out.

Rizzo flips ahead in the book.

RIZZO (CONT'D)
Daisy's house!

They run off in the opposite direction and suddenly stop.

GONZO
Fitz, we already did that scene.

Rizzo pulls the book back out and flips ahead twenty pages.

RIZZO
Gatsby's house!

They run off towards the hedge entrance.

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Gonzo and Rizzo enter into an unbelievable scene, the kind of party that you only see or think possible in the movies.

Nick looks in equal awe, standing a few feet in front of them.

Hundreds of men and Muppets dance around a pool. Confetti rains from the sky, appearing to fall in tune with the music.

Dr. Teeth and The Electric Mayhem play a wild jazz tune from floating pedestals on the pool water.

Nick enters into this manic peak of the roaring twenties.

GONZO
Quick, what's he thinking!

Rizzo flips through several pages and reads aloud.

RIZZO
I was one of the few guests who had actually been invited. People were not invited — they went there. They got into automobiles which bore them out to Long Island and somehow they ended up at Gatsby’s door.

The narration goes to Nick now as he moves through the crowd.

ANIMAL has gone wild on the drums and the crowd responds in tune. Long lines of automobiles pass through and drop off new guests of every shape and size, man and Muppet.

This party isn't a small affair like Tom Buchanan's show of indulgence, Mr. Gatsby's little party has every (PG appropriate) excess on display and everyone is having the time of their life. The energy is infectious.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Once there, they were introduced by somebody who knew Gatsby and after that they conducted themselves according to the rules of behavior associated with amusement parks. Sometimes they came and went without having met Gatsby at all, came for the party with a simplicity of heart that was its own ticket of admission.

Rizzo looks up from the book a wipes a tear from his eye.

RIZZO
Who knew Nick had such a way with words?

GONZO
What happens at the end?

Rizzo flips ahead.

RIZZO
"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into..."
Meh, something about a boat.

GONZO
I hope we don't go with DiCaprio for Gatsby then.

Nick motions to the butler who gave him the invitation.

NICK CARRAWAY
Excuse me, where is Mr. Gatsby?

GATSBY BUTLER
Mr. Gatsby? Oh, I've never actually met the master of the house.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I had to find out who was behind this fabulous party, but it appeared none of his guests had ever even seen Mr. Gatsby.

LINK HOGTHROB jumps up in Nick's face.

LINK HOGTHROB
Mr. Gatsby? I heard he was a German spy in the war, cousin to the Kaiser himself.

A GOSSIP WOMAN leans over Nick.

GOSSIP WOMAN
I heard he killed a man and *stole* his millions.

A playful but sharp laugh breaks through the music.

JORDAN BAKER (O.S.)
I thought you might be here.

Nick looks up to see Jordan passing by. She wiggles a "come closer" finger and enters the massive Gatsby home.

INT. GATSBY'S LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Jordan saunters into a massive library filled with busts of great men and hundreds of books lining its walls (if you look closely, you'll see these book are only numerous copies of: A *Christmas Carol*, *Treasure Island* and *The Wizard of Oz*)

A lone frog stands by a fireplace at the room's end.

NICK CARRAWAY(O.S.)
Jordan! Jordan wait!

Nick runs up to Jordan and catches his breath.

A thin smile crosses her lips.

Gonzo and Rizzo enter now and see Jordan with Nick.

GONZO
What happens! What happens next?

Rizzo holds up the book and flips ahead.

RIZZO
“Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum”

GONZO
Jordan says that?

Rizzo flips the book around and looks over to a shelf.

RIZZO
Whoops, no I grabbed *Treasure Island* by mistake.

Rizzo looks over and sees SCOOTER, wearing owl-eyed glasses, in a leather chair and reading *The Great Gatsby*.

SCOOTER
I don't understand this east versus west thing.

RIZZO
HEY! Give that back.

JORDAN BAKER
Having fun Mr. Carraway? I like large parties, they’re so intimate. At small parties there isn’t any privacy.

Jordan wraps an arm over him, running her nails through his hair.

NICK CARRAWAY
At a small party, it might be easier for me to find our host.

Jordan's eyes light up at this.

JORDAN BAKER
You still haven't met Mr. Gatsby! Oh, the rumors you must be hearing. I bet you must think he's a nine foot tall, hairy ogre.

SWEETUMS, the nine foot tall hairy ogre Muppet, cross his arms and storms out with a huff.

Jordan leans in and whispers into Nick's ear.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
I've just heard the most *amazing* thing.

NICK CARRAWAY
Another rumor?

JORDAN BAKER
No, absolute fact - and from Mr. Gatsby himself.

NICK CARRAWAY
So you have met him!

She plants a sharp kiss on his cheek and quickly trots off.

JORDAN BAKER
Meet me tomorrow, after dinner. We'll talk more then.

NICK CARRAWAY
Wait, Jordan! After dinner where? You're being incredibly vague!

But Jordan is gone.

Nick walks to the large, library window and looks out at the party in full swing.

He can see Jordan attempting to drag Camilla the chicken away as she swims atop a fountain blast.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
There was dancing now in the garden, couples holding each other tortuously, fashionably and keeping in the corners and a great number of single girls dancing individualistically or relieving the orchestra for a moment of the burden of the banjo.

The figure of the frog moves in slowly behind Nick.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Between the numbers, people were doing "stunts" all over the garden, while happy vacuous bursts of laughter rose to the summer sky.

Scooter, Rizzo and Gonzo all read the book now.

SCOOTER
Wow, this guy has a way with words!

Scooter calls out to Nick.

SCOOTER (CONT'D)
Looking for a book my friend?
They're all real, take your pick.

NICK CARRAWAY
They're real, but is Mr. Gatsby?

The frog's image becomes visible in the reflection of the window glass.

His voice, unmistakable.

GATSBY THE FROG
Your, uhh, face is familiar.
Weren't you in the Third Division
during the war?

NICK CARRAWAY
Yes, Ninth Battalion.

GATSBY THE FROG
I thought so, I was in the Seventh
Infantry until June 1918.

There's a long pause.

Nick fidgets with his drink.

NICK CARRAWAY
Can I get you a drink?

GATSBY THE FROG
Oh, uh, no thanks old sport. I
never do drink at my own parties.

Nick is immediately taken aback.

NICK CARRAWAY
You're--

GATSBY THE FROG (obviously, Kermit) holds out a green hand.

GATSBY THE FROG
Jay Gatsby, a pleasure to finally
meet you neighbor.

NICK CARRAWAY
Oh, I didn't realize -- I'm Nick
Carraway.

Nick enthusiastically shakes Gatsby's hand.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He smiled understandingly — much more than understandingly. It was one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it, that you may come across four or five times in life.

Gatsby does Kermit's classic "scrunch" face.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It faced — or seemed to face — the whole external world for an instant, and then concentrated on YOU with an irresistible prejudice in your favor. It understood you just so far as you wanted to be understood, believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself and assured you that it had precisely the impression of you that, at your best, you hoped to convey.

Rizzo lets out a swooning "aww" as he reads the book.

RIZZO
Wow, he must really love Jordan.

GONZO
Fitz, Jordan already left. He's talking about Gatsby here.

RIZZO
Ohh...
(realizing beat)
Oh.

GATSBY THE FROG
I thought you knew, old sport. I'm not a very good host, am I?
(beat)
Say, how bout I make it up to you - We can take out the hyrdoplane, play paintball, go out for a ride.

Gatsby looks at Gonzo and Rizzo glancing up from the book.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Yours friends too, of course.

Before Nick can reply, the butler marches up to Gatsby.

GATSBY BUTLER
Sir, a telephone call from Chicago.

GATSBY THE FROG
My apologizes Nick, I must take this. Tomorrow then?

Nick shyly nods as he watches Gatsby walk coolly away. A butler walks up to Gatsby with a telephone on a silver tray.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I would have accepted without question the information that Gatsby sprang from the swamps of Louisiana - that was comprehensible. But young men didn't drift coolly out of nowhere and buy a palace on Long Island.

Gatsby does Kermit's "arms flailing in the air" scream as he talks on the phone.

Nick considers if he should stay but upon seeing Gatsby busy, he moves to leave.

GONZO
(reading book)
Oh, it says here Nick is leaving.

They look up and see Nick exiting the room, then hurry to their feet themselves - tugging the book away from Scooter.

SCOOTER
Hey, I'm not done!

It rips in half. Gonzo and Rizzo gasp.

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

The party has hit a slower tempo. Everyone moves in a daze as Dr. Teeth and the gang plays a soft tune (for them that is.)

Nick looks oddly agitated by the sight of lovers and beautiful young people.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Girls were putting their heads on men's shoulders in a puppyish way and girls were swooning backward playfully into men's arms knowing that some one would arrest their falls.

Nick looks back at the library window and sees Gatsby pacing as he hangs up the phone.

The song concludes and the party begins to disperse.

Gatsby taps on the glass.

GATSBY THE FROG
Uhh, goodnight out there old sport,
I'll be seeing you tomorrow then.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
No one swooned backward on Gatsby though and no French bob touched Gatsby’s shoulder and no singing quartets were formed with Gatsby’s head for one link.
He was alone at his own party.

Nick nods his head.

NICK CARRAWAY
Good night Gatsby.

Gatsby smiles.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He smiled and suddenly there seemed to be a pleasant significance in having been among the last to go, as if he had desired it all along.

An automobile suddenly crashes into the front ditch as guests begin to pour out.

BUNSEN HONEYDEW and BEAKER scream inside.

BUNSEN HONEYDEW
Beaker, a most noble experiment, but you need the steering wheel attached to drive the car.

Beaker holds up a car wheel.

BEAKER
MEE-MEE-MEE-ME-MEEE?

Nick trudges back to his cabin, Gonzo and Rizzo walk by his side.

Rizzo looks at the destroyed book and sighs.

RIZZO
Nick... Do you own a boat?

NICK CARRAWAY
No, I'd tell you if I did. I'm one of the few honest people I know.

GONZO
Did... he mean to say that one out loud?

EXT. VALLEY OF THE ASHES - AFTERNOON

The eyes of the doctors again glare down from their billboard sign, judging whatever approaches next.

STATLER (V.O.)
Look, here comes a high roller.

WALDORF (V.O.)
Someone tell him he needs to roll in something else.

They "Oh-Ho" laugh together as Gatsby enters frame, cycling a GOLD PLATED BICYCLE with Nick sitting on a rear seat.

Gonzo and Rizzo ride in bicycles behind them.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He was balancing himself with that resourcefulness of movement that is so peculiarly American. This quality was continually breaking through his punctilious manner in the shape of restlessness. He was never quite still; there was always a tapping foot somewhere or the impatient opening and closing of a hand.

GATSBY THE FROG
Look old sport, what do you, uhhh, think of me anyhow?

NICK CARRAWAY
Well, I don't quite know you well enough to have an opinion yet.

Gatsby scrunches his face.

GATSBY THE FROG
Okay then. You just always take long pauses, like you're thinking.

Gonzo look over at Rizzo who shrugs and holds up the ripped book.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
I'll tell you God's truth about my life. I don't want you getting the wrong idea about me old sport.

They pass Wilson's Joke Garage. Nick can see inside that Myrtle is fast asleep while George Bear practices stand-up.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
I am the, uhhh, son of some very wealthy frogs - all gone now. I went to Oxford because that's where they all went. Then came the war old sport, I won the medal for--

Gatsby drones on as Nick thinks.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
At this point I knew why Jordan had believed he was lying. He swallowed or choked on his words as though they bothered him. With this doubt, his whole statement fell to pieces and I wondered if there wasn't something sinister about him after all.

GATSBY THE FROG
-- anyway, that's when Disney bought the rights and things have been leaning towards streaming so we changed our marketing approach.

Nick stays silent as Gatsby slows the pace on their bike.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Would you like to see my medal old sport? Oh, I keep these things on me just in case anyone should ask.

Gatsby pulls out a diploma from Oxford, valor medal from the war, and various photos of his adventures across Europe.

NICK CARRAWAY
It's... It's all true. I thought...

GATSBY THE FROG
That I was making it up?
(beat)
I'm going to ask something big of you today old sport, so I thought you ought to know about me.
You'll find out all about it when you talk to Ms. Baker.

NICK CARRAWAY
How do you know I'm meeting Jordan? Wait, you're not in love with Ms. Baker are you?

GATSBY THE FROG
No old sport, my heart was wed to another long ago.

EXT. QUEENSBORO BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

They cross over the Queensboro bridge, Nick takes in the beauty of the city again and then looks at Gatsby in an odd admiration.

Cars line up behind them.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Anything can happen now that we've slid over this bridge. Anything at all, even Gatsby could happen.

The cars behind them honk and drivers scream as the bike group moves at a break-neck speed of five miles per hour.

EXT. SPEAKEASY - LATE AFTERNOON

Gatsby leads the boys down a steamy back alley and towards a large, metal door.

Gatsby does a secret knock and a visor space slides open.

UNCLE DEADLY's eyes glare down on him.

UNCLE DEADLY
Passsssworddddd?

GATSBY THE FROG
Uhh, *mah-nana-mah*.

UNCLE DEADLY
Spellllll it.

GATSBY THE FROG
Oh for the love of -- I'm Jay Gatsby.

A thick Hispanic accent breaks out from behind the door.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN (O.S.)
What is 'chu doing! Open the door, is Gatsby, eh! Chu know him!

The door slides open revealing Pepe the King Prawn (known here as MEYER WOLFPRAWN) in an impressive white suit.

GATSBY THE FROG
Uhh, Nick Carraway this is my dear friend Señor Meyer Wolfprawn.

Nick shakes one of Meyer Wolfprawn's four hands.

Rizzo looks through the torn book.

RIZZO
Oh wait, I have this page!

GONZO
What's Nick thinking?

Rizzo's eyes go wide.

RIZZO
Let's... skip this one.

INT. SPEAKEASY - CONTINUOUS

Muppets sing a jazzy cover of "Mahna Mahna" as Gatsby puts an arm around Wolfprawn and Nick, leading everyone inside.

UNCLE DEADLY
Apologizes for earlier Mr. Gatsby, your table is ready as alway*sssss*.

Everyone sits down.

Wolfprawn eyes Nick up and down and suddenly sniffs him.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
Well, hola Nicholas. Mr. Gatsby tells me, chu have some business chu'd like to discuss.

GATSBY THE FROG
No Meyer, that's another man - Nick is here on other business for me.

NICK CARRAWAY
I'm sorry, I still don't understand what's going on here.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
I know, I know. Chu are askin' "is he a wolf, or is he prawn?"

A long, unanswered pause. Meyer simply nods his head.

GATSBY THE FROG
Uhh, listen old sport - I know you must be terribly frustrated right now.

Gatsby smiles in an attempt to calm Nick.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
There was the smile again, but this time I held out against it.

Nick sips his coffee as Gatsby's smile holds.

NICK CARRAWAY
I don't like mysteries is all. And I don’t understand why you won’t come out frankly and tell me what you want. Why has it all got to come through Miss Baker?’

A WAITRESS walks over and taps Gatsby on the shoulder.

WAITRESS
Mr. Gatsby, Detroit on the phone.

Gatsby sighs.

GATSBY THE FROG
Excuse me.

Gatsby awkwardly walks away, leaving the boys with Wolfprawn.

Wolfprawn cross his four arms, revealing cufflinks made of human molars.

NICK CARRAWAY
Are you in the business of dentistry, Mr. Wolfprawn?

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
I am dentist, no-no.

GONZO
But you have teeth on your suit!

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
Oh... is not mine...
(beat)
So chu know Mr. Gatsby long, yes.

NICK CARRAWAY
No, I'm actually new to New York.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
Ahhh - I know Gatsby long time, before he had anything in fact. He a good amigo - handsome, loyal, and a gentleman... frog.

NICK CARRAWAY
Before he had anything? Gatsby told me he came from a wealthy family.

Wolfprawn pauses at this and suddenly jumps up.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
I mus' go. I leave you young men to talkabout chur sports and young chicas - if I leave any left for you that is.

Wolfprawn lets out an absurd laugh, running off as Gatsby returns.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby, who is he anyhow? An actor?

GATSBY THE FROG
Technically...
(beat)
Oh, he's a gambler old sport. He fixed the 1919 World Series.

GONZO
I've heard about that!

RIZZO
Yeah, we read ahead in the book.

NICK CARRAWAY
How'd he get away with it?

GATSBY THE FROG
By playing of course. No rules against a four armed pitcher.

Nick spots Tom across the room, laughing with a crowd of upper crust pigs as they play billiards.

NICK CARRAWAY
Tom? Hey Tom!

Tom looks over and Gatsby has immediately booked it, flailing his arms in the air as he runs.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
Tom, I'd like you to meet Mr. Gat--

But Nick looks over and Gatsby is gone - Jordan Baker, leaning on a golf club, stands in his place.

TOM BUCHANAN
(confused)
What are you on about Nick? I've met Jordan before.
(to the pigs)
Honestly, if that man were any more of a fool he'd be a woman.

Uproarious laughter from the pigs. Tom is vindicated.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
(calling out)
See! They liked that joke!

Jordan grabs Nick's hand.

NICK CARRAWAY
I feel as if Mr. Gatsby is overcomplicating things.

JORDAN BAKER
He does have a flare for the dramatic.
(winking)
I'd say it's rubbing off.

She leads him up to the roof.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
Come on, I've got so much to tell.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Jordan sets down a golf ball on the rooftop.

JORDAN
PAR!

She swings.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Bobo the Bear sits in a much larger automobile now.

MUPPET BUSINESS MAN
There we are Mr. Bobo, an automobile fit for any size bear!

Jordan's ball SMASHES the windshield, shattering its glass.

BOBO THE BEAR
I... don't have insurance.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

Camilla pushes another ball forward with her beak as Gonzo and Rizzo politely "golf clap."

JORDAN BAKER
You know I got accused of cheating at my last tournament? They said I moved my ball over before a put.

NICK CARRAWAY
Is this relevant to Mr. Gatsby or Mr. Wolfprawn or any of this grand game you two seem to be playing?

JORDAN BAKER
It's relevant because I remember everything. I remember where my ball landed, I remember the sound of your second rate shoes walking into Tom and Daisy's parlor... and I remember when I first saw Gatsby.

She hits another ball and there is a prolonged yell below.

NICK CARRAWAY
Why shouldn't you? From what I understand, Gatsby just started throwing parties this summer.

Camilla sets up another ball.

JORDAN BAKER
But I didn't meet Gatsby this year. We met five years ago, in 1917.

Camilla doesn't clear the way in time and is LAUNCHED with the golf ball when Jordan swings again.

She bocks out, flying into Time's Square.

GONZO
My love!

Gonzo and Rizzo rush to a fire escape and hurry after her.

JORDAN BAKER
I met him in October of 1917 in Louisville... at the home of young Miss Daisy Fay.

Nick looks genuinely stunned.

NICK CARRAWAY
Daisy...

Jordan turns from him and looks out at the city lights. She sings a song called "Can't Repeat the Past."

JORDAN BAKER
Long ago there was a time,
when the future seemed unsure.
Men marched and girls cried
to a war that brought no cure
Looking back its silly,
remembering this time.
The way we let it slip away -
it sure feels like a crime.

FADE INTO FLASHBACK:

EXT. DAISY'S HOME - NIGHT

LOUISVILLE, 1917

Men in WWI uniforms dance with beautiful girls at an outdoor, southern social for soldiers before deployment.

Gatsby, dressed also in a soldier's uniform, looks out at a long haired Miss Daisy fanning herself on the steps of her home.

JORDAN BAKER
But you can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat the past.
Best to leave it
only in our memory,
else let it
become our en-emy.

For Gatsby and Daisy, this is love at first sight.

A younger Jordan, surrounded by her own suitors, watches Gatsby as he moves towards Miss Daisy.

Daisy lowers her fan and Gatsby offers her his hand.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
You can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat what's gone.
Wish it well and leave those dreams
alone.

Miss Daisy accepts Gatsby's hand.

FADE BACK TO:

EXT. TIMES SQUARE ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Jordan hides her face as tears drip down her cheeks.

Nick keeps his distance, but can't look away from her.

JORDAN BAKER
Daisy's family was holding a social for the soldiers headed off to war and Gatsby was among them. He looked at Daisy in a way that every young girl wants to be looked at, I told you I remember everything and I can promise you I'll never forget the way he looked at her. It was more than love, it was destiny.

NICK CARRAWAY
What happened?

Jordan blinks away her tears.

JORDAN BAKER
Well, Gatsby went to war and something kept him away after the fighting passed... something kept him from her.

FADE INTO FLASHBACK:

EXT. BEAUTY MIRROR - AFTERNOON

Tom Buchanan gets down on one knee, offering Daisy a magnificent diamond.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.)
A year went by and Daisy Fay was engaged to Tom Buchanan with more pomp and circumstance than Louisville had ever seen.

Tom wraps an enormous string of pearls around Daisy's neck.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The day before the wedding, he gave her a string of pearls valued at three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

EXT. DAISY'S HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Miss Daisy sits in a wedding dress, reading a letter stained with her tears.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.)
That wasn't the only thing Daisy received that night. I came into her room an hour before rehearsal and found her sobbing over a letter. The letter was from Gatsby.

Miss Daisy screams and karate chops the pearls from her neck, scattering them across the floor.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
What was in the letter?

Jordan, dressed as a bridesmaid, runs over and attempts to calm Miss Daisy.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.)
I don't know but it was enough for Daisy to want to change her mind.

The preacher marrying Tom and Daisy walks in and she immediately karate chops him.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Not enough to keep it changed apparently.

EXT. HOTEL BATHROOM - MORNING

Miss Daisy shakes in the tub as Jordan and the other bridesmaids collect her pearls and sew them back together.

Miss Daisy's mother paces back and forth, berating her.

Jordan begins singing again.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.)
When we move on to the future,
the past begins to shine.
There's hope in the heart,
I can again make it mine.

INT. CHAPEL - AFTERNOON

Miss Daisy looks dazed as Tom says his vows. Photography blubs flash, drawing forced smiles from her.

JORDAN BAKER (V.O.)
But the longer days go,
the farther those moments become.
Bringing them back now,
just makes me feel glum.

With each forced smile, Miss Daisy gets better and better at making them pass for genuine joy until... it appears that they really are genuine, loving smiles.

FLASH! - A STILL B&W PHOTO OF TOM AND DAISY'S WEDDING.

FADE BACK TO:

EXT. TIMES SQUARE ROOFTOP - NIGHT

JORDAN BAKER
You can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat the past.
You think you have it,
then it leaves your grasp.
Best to leave it be.
Best to follow through.
You can't repeat the past if you
want to keep me.

Nick is closer to Jordan now. He hands her a handkerchief and she wipes tears from her eyes.

NICK CARRAWAY
A strange coincidence, Gatsby
buying that house right across the
bay from her.

JORDAN BAKER
It's not a coincidence at all.

Nick realizes. He looks up to the stars - dim in the city sky.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
He wants to know if you'll have
Daisy to your house some
afternoon... and let him come over.
(beat)
You see he went through all of this
because... he's afraid. He's afraid
he waited too long. He thought you
might be offended.
He's a regular tough under it all.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
The modesty of the demand shook me. He had waited five years and bought a mansion where he dispensed star light to casual moths so that he could "come over" some afternoon to a stranger’s garden.

JORDAN BAKER
I think he half expected her to wander into one of his parties, some night, but she never did. Then he began asking people casually if they knew her, and I was the first one he found. Of course, I immediately brought up that you were her cousin and that he had to meet you... He had to see you Nick so that he can see Daisy.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Suddenly I wasn’t thinking of Daisy and Gatsby any more but of this clean, hard, limited person who dealt in universal skepticism and who leaned back jauntily just within the circle of my arm. A phrase began to beat in my ears...

Nick says this next line out loud.

NICK CARRAWAY
There are only the pursued, the pursuing, the busy and the tired.

JORDAN BAKER
What's that?

NICK CARRAWAY
Just something I was thinking.

JORDAN BAKER
About Mr. Gatsby?

NICK CARRAWAY
About you.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Unlike Gatsby and Tom, I had no girl whose disembodied face floated along the dark cornices and blinding signs and so I drew up this girl beside me. Her scornful mouth smiled up.

Nick leans and touches Jordan's face.

JORDAN BAKER
So Nick Carraway, you'll do it then... for Mr. Gatsby?

Nick kisses her and she kisses back, passion breaking through her usually cold exterior.

Gonzo and Rizzo climb back up the fire escape with Camilla. They all snack on pizza slices.

GONZO
Guys, we found Camilla along with a great pizza place that--

They see the lovers, embraced in the electric New York glow.

RIZZO
Ugh, a romance scene.

GONZO
Fitz, the movie is a love story.

RIZZO
It's not too late to stop this.

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - MORNING

Nick sits with Gonzo and Rizzo on the front porch, the three of them obsessively check their pocket watches in unison.

It is raining heavy, a man mows Nick's lawn through the rain.

GONZO
Who is that guy?

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby sent him. He wants everything perfect for Daisy.

Gonzo and Rizzo peer over and see Gatsby hiding in the hedges as he glares out at the cottage and checks his own watch.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
He said he'd be here any moment now and we have only a matter of time until Daisy arrives. I was very specific that she come alone.

A large, colorful truck pulls up.

RIZZO
That her?

A FLORIST steps out carrying a MASSIVE flower display.

FLORIST
Flowers for a Mr. Carraway!

NICK CARRAWAY
Uhh... put them inside.

Another truck pulls up and a BAKER jumps out with a giant cake in hand.

BAKER
Cake and tea for Mr. Carraway!

Yet another truck pulls in and a CLOCKMAKER steps out.

CLOCKMAKER
Grandfather clocks for Carraway!

A CABLE MAN pulls up.

CABLE MAN
Cable man for a Mr. Carraway! I can get you Netflix, Hulu, Disney Plus.

Gonzo and Rizzo "Oooh" at this.

Nick looks baffled as more and more trucks pull up.

INT. NICK'S COTTAGE - A LITTLE LATER

Nick sits nearly buried in a tomb of useless, expensive things: coats, silks, decorations and anything else Gatsby thinks Daisy might need or be impressed by.

NICK CARRAWAY
Do you both feel all this is rather... unnecessary?

Gonzo and Rizzo pull up *The Muppet Movie* on a new flat screen TV.

RIZZO
I... don't know what you mean Nick.

A hurried knock at the door. Nick removes himself from the sarcophagus of excess and goes to answer it.

Gatsby stands in a white, flannel suit on the porch.

GATSBY THE FROG
Morning old sport, everything good?

NICK CARRAWAY
The grass is fine if that's what you mean.

Nick observes Gatsby.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He was pale and there were dark signs of sleeplessness beneath his eyes.

GATSBY THE FROG
Ohhh, she's not coming old sport - I'll just go.

Gatsby turns to walk away.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby! Don't be silly.

As the trucks that supplied Nick's house leave, a new white car enters behind them.

Daisy rides in the back.

GATSBY THE FROG
She's here!

Gatsby runs in and SLAMS the door. He looks absolutely miserable.

Nick sits Gatsby down.

NICK CARRAWAY
Stay here, I'll go get her. You'll do just fine Gatsby.

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Nick steps outside as Miss Daisy's driver opens the car door for her.

She steps out, wearing a lavender hat brimmed with flower buds.

MISS DAISY
Is this absolutely where you live, my dearest one?

Nick takes out an umbrella and walks over to guide Daisy in.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Why did I have to come alone?

NICK CARRAWAY
That's the mystery of Castle Carraway. You like mysteries?

MISS DAISY
I adore surprises so long as they're good ones! Do you have a surprise for mwah?

Nick smiles as they enter his home.

INT. NICK'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Nick walks her in and holds up a showman's hand to where he assumes Gatsby is standing.

Miss Daisy's face scrunches at the excess items.

MISS DAISY
You're a... hoarder. Oh, but Nicky, such nice flo-wersss.

She sniffs the roses.

Nick looks around confused, no Gatsby - just Gonzo and Rizzo on the sofa.

Nick whispers out the corner of his mouth.

NICK CARRAWAY
(whispered)
Where is Gatsby?

A sudden knocking at the door.

Gonzo and Rizzo point to the knocks.

Nick opens the door, revealing an absolutely drenched Gatsby.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He glared tragically into my eyes.

MISS DAISY (O.S.)
Nicky, who is it?
(serious as hell)
Better not be Tom.

Nick nods in support.

NICK CARRAWAY
You can do this.

Gatsby nods too and walks past him, revealing Miss Daisy framed amongst Nick's most gorgeous and prominent flowers.

At the sight of Gatsby, the flowers in her own hat blossom.

There's a long pause and for a moment it seems like they might not speak at all.

MISS DAISY
I certainly am awfully glad to see you again.

GATSBY THE FROG
Yes, umhh...
(to Nick)
We've... see, we've met before.

Nick squints his eyes.

Gatsby leans against the fireplace mantel and knocks over a clock which he quickly catches.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Ooh, close one. That could have been oddly symbolic.

He backs up, bumping into a grandfather clock which tips over SLAMMING into another clock - domino dropping clocks down to destruction until ten different clocks lay in waste around them.

Gonzo and Rizzo cover their eyes in shame.

Miss Daisy bursts into HARD laughter now. Tears brim from her eyes.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Oh, Miss Daisy don't cry.

He takes out a handkerchief and walks over.

MISS DAISY
I'm crying because I'm ha-ppy. It's been such a long time.

GATSBY THE FROG
Five years, this November.

Gatsby dabs Miss Daisy's tears away.

MISS DAISY
I thought I'd never see you again.

GATSBY THE FROG
Well... I never thought that.

They lean in together as they hold hands. The love and history these two have shared is immediately evident.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
There was a change in Gatsby that was simply confounding. He literally glowed; without a word or a gesture of exultation a new well-being radiated from him.

Rizzo leans over to Gonzo.

RIZZO
Wait... that's not Tom that Miss Daisy is looking lovingly at.

GONZO
Fitz, you have the book! How are you still not getting this?

Rizzo holds up the ripped book.

RIZZO
All I know is we're going to Gatsby's house next.

Gatsby calls out to everyone, but doesn't look away from Miss Daisy.

GATSBY THE FROG
I'd like to show you my house!

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION - DAY

It stops raining as the group walks through the hedges and into Gatsby's grand estate.

A rainbow descends down on the mansion.

MISS DAISY
The huge place THERE? That's yours!

Gatsby modestly puts his hands in his pockets.

GATSBY THE FROG
You like it?

MISS DAISY
I LOVE IT!
(whispered)
And I thought Tom and I were rich.
(to Gatsby)
But my dear, how do you live in this big house all alone with your *massive* fortune? Tom could never.

GATSBY THE FROG
Well tell Tom it isn't the size of a man's wealth but how he uses it.

Gonzo instantly slaps down a hand, covering Rizzo's lips.

GONZO
Don't you dare.

GATSBY THE FROG
So, where shall we begin.

MISS DAISY
The music room?

GATSBY THE FROG
Excellent choice.

Gatsby snaps to a butler to come forward.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Wake up Klipspringer, the lady would like some music.

INT. GATSBY'S MUSIC ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A grand, golden organ. Rowlf the Dog (known here as KLIPSPRINGER THE DOG) stretches his paws out over the keys.

Gatsby stands with Miss Daisy in the middle of the music room's dance floor as the others watch.

KLIPSPRINGER THE DOG
I'm kinda out of practice.

GATSBY THE FROG
I'm sure you're fine Klipspringer.

KLIPSPRINGER THE DOG
You trying to make out down there or just set the mood?

GATSBY THE FROG
Klipspringer, stop speaking.

KLIPSPRINGER THE DOG
Right-o.

Klipspringer begins playing a tune called "Anything You've Ever Wanted." Gatsby sings as he leads Miss Daisy in a waltz.

GATSBY THE FROG
Miss Daisy,
you're everything I've ever wanted.

MISS DAISY
I'm everything you've ever wanted?

GATSBY THE FROG
So for the only thing I ever wanted.
I've got anything you've ever wanted. I have---

MONTAGE:

INT. GATSBY'S DINNING HALL - CONTINUOUS

Butlers shine Gatsby plates.

GATSBY THE FROG
Fancy plates-

INT. GATSBY'S CLOSET - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby opens his closet.

GATSBY THE FROG
Handsewn suits-

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby leans on his J. G. engraved gate.

GATSBY THE FROG
Shiny gates-

INT. GATSBY'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby pushes down on an orange squeezer which shoots juice into Rizzo's eye.

GATSBY THE FROG
Fresh squeezed fruits.
Name a thing, and I've got it.

MISS DAISY
Name a thing, and you've bought it!

GATSBY THE FROG
That's right!

MISS DAISY
Do you have mini horses with little bows in the manes?

EXT. STABLES - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby brushes the hair of an adorable mini horse.

GATSBY THE FROG
For your very pleasure, imported right from the plains.

MISS DAISY
Do you have caviar, expensive wines and food all the time?

INT. GATSBY'S DINNING HALL - CONTINUOUS

Butlers uncover various trays of a five course meal.

GATSBY THE FROG
Served up for you, would you like your cut choice or prime?

MISS DAISY
Footmen?

INT. GATSBY'S MANSION HALL - CONTINUOUS

Penguin footmen tap up the hall, past Gatsby and Daisy.

GATSBY THE FROG
More than one!

MISS DAISY
Airplane?

EXT. AIRWAY STRIPE - CONTINOUS

Sam Eagle lands his plane in the runway as Gatsby waves.

GATSBY THE FROG
Take you anywhere you want to be.

MISS DAISY
The clock Big Ben!

EXT. GATSBY'S GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby stands at the foot the exact Big Ben structure.

GATSBY THE FROG
Straight from London.

MISS DAISY
The state of Maine?

Gatsby holds up a deed reading "STATE OF MAINE"

GATSBY THE FROG
It belongs to me!
Miss Daisy I've got anything you've ever wanted.

MISS DAISY
Anything I've ever wanted!

GATSBY THE FROG
And all I've ever wanted, was you.

MONTAGE END:

INT. GATSBY'S LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Dance interlude. Miss Daisy and Gatsby waltz through the library area. Scooter remains where he was the other night, reading (with a worried look) the pages he ripped away.

SCOOTER
Uh, Mr. Gatsby.

But Gatsby and Daisy are lost in the dance as Scooter holds up a page.

SCOOTER (CONT'D)
Maybe don't use your pool near the end of the act three... Mr. Gatsby?

INT. GATSBY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby opens a massive closet filled with an expansive collection of clothes (costumes from previous Muppet films).

GATSBY THE FROG
I've got a man in England who buys me clothes. He sends over a selection of things at the beginning of each season.

MISS DAISY
What have you got?

Gatsby sings again.

GATSBY THE FROG
Why, anything you've ever wanted of course.

MISS DAISY
Egyptian cotton?

Gatsby throws down a cotton shirt.

GATSBY THE FROG
I haven't forgotten!

MISS DAISY
Flannel wear?

Gatsby throws down a flannel shirt.

GATSBY THE FROG
Do you prefer the chest bare?

MISS DAISY
Japanese kimono?

Gatsby throws down a kimono.

It's revealed that all the clothes Gatsby has been throwing have just been falling on Rizzo and Gonzo who are being buried beneath the pile.

GATSBY THE FROG
Yeah, but this season that's a no-no.

MISS DAISY
So many cool shirts, they're everything I could want.

GATSBY THE FROG
So much to buy but I only mean to flaunt... for you.
I did everything I ever wanted...
Because I only ever wanted... you.

MISS DAISY
I've had everything I ever wanted... But now I have it... I realize, it wasn't true...

They hold each other.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Oh Gatsby, you did all this for *mwah*?

GATSBY THE FROG
I did Miss Daisy... I did.

Nick watches for a moment, then turns and walks out the room - leaving the two lost loves alone to have their privacy.

EXT. GATSBY'S DOCK - NIGHT

Nick stands on the dock. A mist has rolled in from the rain, blocking off the green light. Regardless, Nick still searches for it.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
The colossal significance of that light had now vanished forever. Compared to the great distance that had separated him from Daisy it had seemed very near to her, almost touching her. Now it was again just a green light on a dock.

Gonzo and Rizzo pulls shirts off themselves as they walk down the dock.

NICK CARRAWAY
He's forgotten all about me... Gatsby has.

GONZO
Well, can you blame him?

NICK CARRAWAY
There were moments in there... where I would see them together and Daisy looked as if she had tumbled short of his dreams — not through her own fault but because of the colossal vitality of his illusion.
(beat)
No amount of fire or freshness can challenge what a man will store up in his ghostly heart.

Rizzo leans over to Gonzo.

RIZZO
We might need to get the Cliffnotes instead of the novel cause I don't understand a word he is saying.

NICK CARRAWAY
I don't think we're meant to get everything we ever wanted... else what is there to build character? What makes... me?

Nick hangs his head and looks up, again desperately searching for the green light.

Nothing-- but down the distant road, headlights break into view. Screaming patrons cheer as the automobiles round up into Gatsby's lawn.

Animal yells as a pair of sultry flappers hang on his side.

ANIMAL
WOMAN! WOMAN!

The next party of the decade is already beginning in Gatsby's yard.

The usual suspects have returned, along with a new guest.

NICK CARRAWAY
Tom?

Tom Buchanan exits his automobile and approaches the mansion.

RIZZO
Ohhhh, drama.

NICK CARRAWAY
Tom!

Nick runs down the dock.

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Tom turns around as Nick runs up, he's obviously been "pre-gaming."

TOM BUCHANAN
Nick! Didn't think you'd see me in West Egg anytime soon! Did you?

Jordan exits a car behind him and walks to Nick.

JORDAN BAKER
(whispered)
I tried to stop him.

TOM BUCHANAN
I heard Daisy was spending the afternoon with you and thought I'd drop by. Turns out there's a party!

He rustles both Jordan and Nick's hair.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
So this must be where that Gatsby fellow I've heard so much about throws his circus romps. I'd like to compare pocketbooks... Say, where is Daisy?

MISS DAISY (O.S.)
Tommy!

Tom spins around and sees Gatsby and Miss Daisy looking stunned and standing arm in arm.

MISS DAISY (CONT'D)
Oh! Mr. Gatsby here was just... walking me arm in arm so I could... find NICK FOR A DANCE! DON'T YOU WANT TO DANCE NICKY? DON'T YOU?

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I did not want to dance.

NICK CARRAWAY
Yeah... sure Daisy.

She forcefully sweeps Nick off her feet and into the crowd.

MISS DAISY
OUTTA MY WAY, COMING THROUGH!

Jordan grabs Rizzo and Gonzo's hands, leading them off.

JORDAN BAKER
Come on, let's leave the rich men be to discuss whatever rich men do.
(winking back)
Which isn't much I imagine.

There is a long, awkward silence between Tom and Gatsby as they stand at the edge of the party.

TOM BUCHANAN
I didn't know my wife was at this party.

GATSBY THE FROG
Well I didn't know *you'd* be at this party.

Gonzo and Rizzo loudly "boo" as Jordan leads them off.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
I, uhh, your lovely wife was visiting my neighbor Mr. Carraway and... I invited her over, you see we have all sorts of people here. My parties are quite the talk of the town. Heads of state, gangsters, famous films stars... Hey, there's one!

Gatsby points at [REAL ACTOR WHO TOM'S ACTOR HAS WORKED WITH] partying with Dr. Teeth and the band.

TOM BUCHANAN
Never seen his pictures.

GATSBY THE FROG
How about her, she's quite the leading lady.

Gatsby points at [REAL ACTRESS WHO TOM'S ACTOR HAS PLAYED OPPOSITE AS A LOVE INTEREST] talking with Sweetums.

TOM BUCHANAN
Not hot at all.

GATSBY THE FROG
Oh... Him?

Gatsby points at [TOM'S ACTOR IN CHARACTER AS HIMSELF].

TOM BUCHANAN
Listen here frog, I don't know anyone at this West Egg menagerie of yours and I don't want to know them - the only person I know is my wife and I don't like that she seems to know you.

GATSBY THE FROG
You're right... she does know me.

Tom's eyes grow angry at this, but he maintains his cool.

Miss Daisy and the others return from the dance floor.

MISS DAISY
Things seem... tense.

TOM BUCHANAN
Not at all dear. In fact, Mr. Gatsby and I were just saying we should all take a trip to the city together. He and I have a lot in common I wager.

MISS DAISY
Well, it was a marvelous evening mon amour. Until next time, Tom and I will be counting the seconds to that city escape.

TOM BUCHANAN
(stern)
Daisy...

Gatsby kisses her hand.

GATSBY THE FROG
Until then... Miss Daisy... It was good to see you again.

Miss Daisy and Tom drive off together, leaving Gatsby looking alone and defeated despite his dream come true of a day.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Jordan, will you be joining us?

JORDAN BAKER
Only if Nick will have me.

Nick slowly nods his head.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
Right then.
Another glorious party Gatsby -
don't go enjoying it too much now.

She trots off and Gatsby walks down to the dock.

EXT. GATSBY'S DOCK - CONTINUOUS

Gatsby resumes his usual position on the dock's end, glaring out at the green light which is just now beginning to break through the mist.

GATSBY THE FROG
She didn't like it old sport...

NICK CARRAWAY
Of course she did!

GATSBY THE FROG
I feel far away from her, it’s hard to make her understand.

NICK CARRAWAY
What, at the party?

GATSBY THE FROG
The party? Old sport, the party is unimportant. This... situation we are in.
(beat)
She has to tell him the truth.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
He wanted nothing less of Daisy than that she should go to Tom and say: ‘I never loved you.’

Mist again covers the green light.

NICK CARRAWAY
Why did you let her get away, Jay?

GATSBY THE FROG
I came from a swamp in Louisiana, nothing but a banjo on my back and a bike beneath my feet... But Daisy and I had love and if I was ever gonna have her, I had to climb... I could only climb alone.
(beat)
I went to Europe, got my education, found a way to wealth... but time passed us by. If I could, I'd take her back to Louisville right now and marry her just as if it were five years ago... but she has to tell Tom the truth, the truth that she never loved him.

Nick ponders on this.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby, you can't repeat the past.

Gatsby looks honestly offended by this.

GATSBY THE FROG
Can't repeat the past? Why, of course you can old sport.

Gatsby walks out of frame and CAMERA pans over to follow him, revealing an entire film crew with a WRITER and DIRECTOR watching a display monitor playing *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. The director sips coffee as he points to the screen.

DIRECTOR
This only works if the main character takes it seriously. See Michael Caine's Scrooge, serious as a car accident despite the puppets around him, that's why it works. People love nostalgia so if we can recapture this, we'll...

The crew pauses as they realize Gatsby is looking at them.

Gatsby scrunches his face and motions to CAMERA which quickly follows him back to his talk with Nick.

GATSBY THE FROG
I'm gonna fix everything the way it was before, she'll see.

Gatsby turns to walk off, again a stranger at his own party.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
For a moment a phrase tried to take shape in my mouth and my lips parted as though there was more struggling upon them than a wisp of startled air. But they made no sound and what I had almost remembered was uncommunicable forever.

An offscreen production assistant hands Gonzo and Rizzo coffees which they sip as they Nick broods, still looking for the light.

Rizzo flips through a ripped page of the book.

RIZZO
Oh hey, it's Nick's birthday tomorrow!

EXT. BUCHANAN MANSION - DAY

Gatsby, Nick, Rizzo and Gonzo ride up on Gatsby's golden bicycles. Rizzo and Gonzo wears birthday hats.

MISS DAISY
Oh, there Gatsby is!..
I mean, they are...

Butlers fans Tom and Miss Daisy as they sit drinking cool drinks.

Camilla fans Jordan with her wing.

GATSBY THE FROG
Ready to go into town?

TOM BUCHANAN
Where's your car?

GATSBY THE FROG
Oh, well you see as a millionaire I feel it's my duty to reduce my carbon footprint and preserve this planet and all of its resources for future generations.

Tom squints his eyes.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
I... don't have one...

Tom gets up and paces menacingly around Gatsby.

TOM BUCHANAN
Well I do, but I don't expect to fit the whole rowdy bunch inside.

Miss Daisy trots over to Gatsby.

MISS DAISY
That's okay dar-ling. I'll ride with Mr. Gatsby and you can take the others in our car.

The glass Tom is holding shatters in his grasp.

He runs his hand back through his hair, brushing off shards of glass.

TOM BUCHANAN
Sounds *great*. We'll meet at the Plaza Hotel.

Gatsby honks a whoopie cushion horn as he rides off with Miss Daisy on the back on his bike.

Tom is fuming as he watches them go.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
I bet you all think I'm pretty stupid, don't you.

GONZO
Yes.

RIZZO
Of course not.

TOM BUCHANAN
Well I'll have you know I've made a little inquiry into this Gatsby fellow. He's not what he says he is, he's a bootlegger!

RIZZO
What? Gatsby doesn't wear boots.

Nick's attitude suddenly changes, he's on the defensive - as if he were defending himself.

NICK CARRAWAY
You're wrong, Gatsby is an honest man!

TOM BUCHANAN
Then why doesn't he tell me what I already know... why don't you?

Nick hangs his head.

Jordan takes his hand in comfort.

EXT. GEORGE BEAR WILSON'S GARAGE - DAY

The eyes of the doctors glare down, sunlight passing through the holes in their decaying display.

Tom's car rockets down the Valley of Ashes.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
We were all irritable now with the fading ale and, aware of it, we drove for a while in silence. Then doctors TJ and Eckleburg’s faded eyes came into sight down the road.

WALDORF (V.O.)
Everybody seems to be in love with the wrong person in this movie.

STATLER
You know what I'm not in love with? This movie! *Oh-ho-ho-ho.*

Nick's eyes become lost in the faded blue irises.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
I remembered Gatsby... The eyes were not the eyes of God, watching his children... They were the eyes of the past, unable to change the future.

George Bear Wilson packs rubber chickens into a suitcase as Tom's car pulls up.

TOM BUCHANAN
Hey, there's Wilson.
(calling out)
Wilson! Don't hold me up here!

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
I'm sick Mr. Buchanan... I'm going away.

In the backseat, Rizzo and Gonzo pull out a birthday cake with Nick's name written on it.

GONZO
When do we surprise him?

George begins sobbing.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Myrtle and I are moving out *weeeststttt.*

TOM BUCHANAN
Myrtle! She's leaving with you?

Tom looks up and sees Myrtle crying in an upstairs window as she glares down. She blows hot breath on the glass and draws a heart on it, pointing to Tom.

Gonzo and Rizzo lower the cake as George cries.

GONZO
Okay, maybe it should wait.

Rizzo puts the cake down in the driver's seat.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
I just got wised up to something funny the last few days... That I'm not funny... And she knows it too.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
The relentless beating heat was beginning to confuse me and I had a bad moment there before I realized that so far his suspicions hadn't alighted on Tom. George had discovered that Myrtle had some sort of life apart from him in another world and the shock had made him physically sick.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
The improv scene is much better out west, maybe I'll even make some money like you Mr. Buchanan.

Tom scoffs and returns to his car.

RIZZO
No wait!

Tom sits down, crushing the cake beneath his bottom.

He lets out a long sigh, puts his car into gear and drives off. He may actually be fighting off tears.

TOM BUCHANAN
(whispered)
Goodbye Myrtle.

There are screams from Myrtle's window as Tom drives off.

EXT. VALLEY OF THE ASHES - CONTINUOUS

Tom drives like a madman.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Tom was feeling the hot whips of panic. Daisy and Myrtle, until an hour ago secure and inviolate, were slipping from his control. Instinct made him step on the accelerator with the double purpose of overtaking Daisy and leaving Wilson behind.

They pass Gatsby and Daisy, laughing as they bike together.

Tom's eyes fill with rage.

Jordan reaches over and takes Nick's hand, but his touch is cold. His eyes remain on Gatsby seen riding behind them.

INT. PLAZA SUITE - AFTERNOON

Gonzo and Rizzo looks down at the smooshed cake, still readable but obviously freshly sat on.

RIZZO
I think we can just cut out the part Tom sat on.

GONZO
He sat on the whole cake.

RIZZO
Oh yeah... well, five second rule.

GONZO
He sat on it for the entire ride.

RIZZO
Yeah, but it never hit the ground.

Gonzo shrugs and lights a candle atop the destroyed cake.

GONZO
Ohhhh, for he's a jolly good-

RIZZO (CONT'D)
Ohhhh, for he's a jolly good-

The hotel bathroom door suddenly SWINGS open slamming into Gonzo and Rizzo with a distinct SLAP of wet cake.

Daisy steps out, rubbing ice cubes on her face.

MISS DAISY
It is hot as blazes in here, open another window Tom my dear.

TOM BUCHANAN
They're all open.

MISS DAISY
(stern)
Then send for an axe.

TOM BUCHANAN
I'll need that axe the way this day has been going.

The door creaks back, revealing the two covered in cake.

GONZO
Just... don't say anything Fitz.

GATSBY THE FROG
Why not let her alone old sport?

Nick and Jordan hang their heads as Tom sits, fixing his pocket watch by an open window overlooking Manhattan.

Tom suddenly begins laughing, laughing cruelly.

The ice has melted in Miss Daisy's shaking grip.

TOM BUCHANAN
That's a great expression of yours, that old sport business. Where'd you pick that up - from your bootlegging buddies like Meyer Wolfprawn?

MISS DAISY
Tom, If you're going to make personal remarks I won't stay here a minute.

TOM BUCHANAN
I imagine you both have something to tell me, well I have something to tell you.

RIZZO
Oh, good! He must have remembered Nick's birthday.

Tom begins singing a song called "Old Sport."

TOM BUCHANAN
You call me old money, you say you're new.
They call you new money, I call you who!
Mr. Gatsby you don't seem to know who I am.
Well took a look in the mirror, cause I'll show who's a sham!

GATSBY THE FROG
That's a rather unfair accusation old sport.

TOM BUCHANAN
NICK! Who do you think Mr. Gatsby is?

NICK CARRAWAY
(voice cracking)
He's my friend!

TOM BUCHANAN
Wrong, he just used you to get to Daisy. JORDAN! What do you think of that little green fellow there?

JORDAN
A gentleman to the end!

TOM BUCHANAN
Wrong. The man you see before you is named James Gatz and his life ain't worth spit.

Tom hacks up some spit and shoots it into a table glass.

Gonzo and Rizzo hold up "8" and "7" judge cards.

GATSBY THE FROG
Hold it right there old sport!

The music grows more intense, more frantic.

TOM BUCHANAN
He was the son of a poor family and while he may be rich now, I can promise you he'll always have been poor longer than he'll ever be rich!

GATSBY THE FROG
Is that a threat old sport?

TOM BUCHANAN
It's the truth old sport!
Old sport, old sport.
You and I are the kind of sort.
Who fall in love with a girl.

Butler PENGUINS pop up from the windows to sing barbershop back-up.

PENGUINS
Who fall in love a girl.

TOM BUCHANAN
A girl worth the price of every pearl.

Miss Daisy runs a finger over her pearls.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
I paid that price old sport, you missed your chance and the store is closed!
DAISY!

Miss Daisy jumps.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
What do you think of this old sport, what do you think of James Gatz from the swamps of Louisiana?

MISS DAISY
I... I love him.

The penguins back her up.

PENGUINS
She loves him, she loves him.

Tom forcefully grabs their beaks.

TOM BUCHANAN
What am I paying you for?

PENGUINS
Sorry.

TOM BUCHANAN
Old sport, old sport.
Stuck in a past, you hope to thwart!
But you can't throw away history.
I unravel your cloth, what's the mystery?
There is none!
You are nothing! You had nothing!
You will have nothing, old sport!
And I'll have Daisy because we have history... and you no longer have mys-ter-ry.

Everyone is frozen in suspense.

Tom catches his breath, he is drenched in sweat.

GATSBY THE FROG
Tell him Miss Daisy... Tell him how you never loved him.

Daisy stands between the two men. All her ice has melted.

MISS DAISY
You're disgusting Tom...

TOM BUCHANAN
SAY IT THEN!

MISS DAISY
I... loved you once.

Tom moves in.

TOM BUCHANAN
Really... Was it on our honeymoon in Bermuda? Was that the one time you loved me?

Miss Daisy says nothing.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
Was it when I walked you into our new home and we danced through every room?

Miss Daisy hangs her head.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
Was it on our wedding day? When I saw the tears dried under your eyes... and that you had dried them, for me.
(beat)
Tell me you only loved me once and tell me when it was.

Miss Daisy SCREAMS madly.

MISS DAISY
I CAN'T DO IT JAY! I CAN'T... I'VE LOVED YOU BOTH BUT YOU WEREN'T THERE JAY! IT'S IN THE PAST!

She runs off sobbing, and slams the bathroom door.

Tom looms over a defiant but ultimately hopeless Gatsby.

TOM BUCHANAN
It's over, old sport - this little flirtation of yours. I suggest you drive Daisy home and say goodbye, we'll follow you shortly.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Gatsby looked as if he had "killed a man."

Gatsby can't bring himself to speak. He walks to the bathroom and gives a defeated knock.

GATSBY THE FROG
Miss Daisy, let's get you home.

Gonzo and Rizzo walk over and sit between Jordan and Nick.

Nick looks suddenly shell shocked and a thin laugh escapes.

JORDAN BAKER
Nick?.. Nick, what is it.

NICK CARRAWAY
I just remembered... today is my birthday.

Rizzo and Gonzo groan.

GONZO
We've been trying to tell you that all day!

Jordan leans in an grabs Nick's face, turning it towards her.

NICK CARRAWAY
Jordan... We don't have history together, I'm getting older and I don't know how many more pasts I can make with people.

JORDAN BAKER
That's what I like about you.

NICK CARRAWAY
Is it... Or was I just trying to be Gatsby?

She reprises singing "Can't Repeat the Past."

JORDAN BAKER
But you can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat the past.
Best to leave it,
only in our memory.
Else let it
become our en-emy.

NICK CARRAWAY
You can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat what's gone.
Wish it well and leave those dreams alone.

JORDAN BAKER
When we move on to the future,
the past begins to shine.
There's hope in the heart,
I can again make it mine.

NICK CARRAWAY
But the longer days go,
the farther those moments become.
Bringing them back now,
just makes me feel glum.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
But the longer days go,
the farther those moments become.
Bringing them back now,
just makes you feel glum.

JORDAN BAKER (CONT'D)
You can't repeat the past.
You can't repeat the past.
You think you have it,
then it leaves your grasp.
Best to leave it be.
Best to follow through.
You can't repeat the past if you want to keep...

NICK CARRAWAY
... me.

Jordan rests her head on Nick's shoulder.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Jordan, unlike Daisy, was too wise ever to carry well-forgotten dreams from age to age. Her wan face fell lazily against my coat’s shoulder and the formidable stroke of the clock died away with the reassuring pressure of her hand.

Tom suddenly throws his hat upon the ground.

TOM BUCHANAN
Darnit! There was only one car.

EXT. GEORGE BEAR WILSON'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Police lights beam in the dusty night sky of the Valley of Ashes.

There is a crime scene ahead, just in front of George Bear Wilson's shop.

Tom and the others ride the golden Gatsby bicycles as they make their way down the road.

TOM BUCHANAN
Might actually get Tom some business, whoever wrecked is stranded and has to hear his jokes.

Nick can see George crying before a group of police officers, beside him is Myrtle in a MASSIVE FULL BODY CAST!

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
MYRTLE!

Tom jumps off his bike and runs over.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
Myrtle!.. I mean, evening officers, Mr. Wilson. What happened!

Myrtle mumbles through her cast, but falls into an ash heap.

No one helps her up.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
This MAD MAN in a blue car ran Myrtle over. She went running out after it! I can't tell you why, acted like she knew the driver.

TOM BUCHANAN
Did you see it?

George shakes his head.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
THEY saw it!

He points up at the eyes of Doctors T.J. and Eckleburg.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON (CONT'D)
The eyes of God see everything.

Waldorf and Statler immediately laugh.

WALDORF (V.O.)
He thinks we're the eyes of God

STATLER (V.O.)
If I was God, I would have ended this movie over an hour ago.

Another shared laugh.

TOM BUCHANAN
You think this man was someone that Myrtle...

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Another man she laughed with? Well, he certainly did hit on her - *A-waka-waka!*

Silence. An absolute bomb of a joke.

George sighs.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON (CONT'D)
The doctors say she may never laugh again.

Myrtle mumble screams from the dust pile.

Two cops assist her up again.

TOM BUCHANAN
So this fella who run her over, you didn't get a look at him?

George shakes his head.

TOM BUCHANAN (CONT'D)
Oh... I think he passed us a while back. Handsome green fella with a trail of money burning behind him.

George squeezes his rubber chicken like a stress ball.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
Tell me his name.

Tom smiles.

The eyes of Doctors T.J. and Eckleburg glare over him.

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Nick returns to his house, looking totally exhausted.

GONZO
Sorry your birthday was so bad.

RIZZO
Could have been worse. You could have been run over by a car.

NICK CARRAWAY
Thanks guys, I just can't understand why Gatsby did it. Why he'd drive away like a coward--

Gatsby leans over the hedge and lets out a long "pssst."

GATSBY THE FROG
Hello over there old sport.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby! You have some nerve showing your face after that stunt. She's in a full body cast and the doctors say she'll never laugh again!

GATSBY THE FROG
Well, not married to that bear.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby, this is serious! You show me your medals and yet you flee like a coward. Was anything you told me true, any of it?

GATSBY THE FROG
It's true that I loved Daisy... And I still do. That's why when I tried to grab the wheel from her--

Nick stops, his expression immediately changes.

NICK CARRAWAY
Daisy... was driving.

Gatsby reluctantly nods.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. GEORGE BEAR WILSON'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Gatsby sits next to Daisy in the car as she drives.

GATSBY THE FROG (V.O.)
She said it would... calm her nerves to drive.

George is trying some new stand up in the garage and Myrtle suddenly SCREAMS and runs out. She sees the blue car approaching.

MYRTLE
Tom... TOM, YOU'VE COME FOR ME!

GATSBY THE FROG (V.O.)
This mad woman ran out in the road after us and it was too late to stop, she gave us no chance.

Myrtle screams as the automobile mows her down beneath it.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
That was Myrtle she hit, Tom's woman in New York.

GATSBY THE FROG (V.O.)
Oh... well I guess that explains what happened next.

Miss Daisy puts the car in reverse and runs over Myrtle again with a loud BUMP. She pulls forward.

MYRTLE WILSON (O.S.)
(weak)
Tom... Tom is that you darling?

Miss Daisy again goes into reverse and repeats the action.

She turns to a horrified Gatsby.

MISS DAISY
Let's go home, shall we?

END FLASHBACK:

EXT. NICK'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Nick hangs his head in his hands.

NICK CARRAWAY
So what are you going to do now?

GATSBY THE FROG
Well, I suppose I'll just wait for Daisy to call.

NICK CARRAWAY
What if she doesn't call?

Gatsby laughs at this, but it is a sad and empty laugh.

GATSBY THE FROG
I suppose I'll use the pool then... You know, I haven't used that thing all summer.

NICK CARRAWAY
You... still think Daisy will change her mind?

Gatsby points to the distant green light, now clear again.

GATSBY THE FROG
I have to old sport.
It ain't easy being green.

Gatsby holds out his hand.

GATSBY THE FROG (CONT'D)
Until then friend.

Nick takes his hand, looking Gatsby in the eyes.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby... You're worth the whole bunch put together.

Gatsby stares at Nick, understanding.

GATSBY THE FROG
I always see you thinking Nick and that seems like the first time you've spoken out loud.

NICK CARRAWAY
I'm glad. It won't be the last. Goodnight.

Nick returns to his home and Rizzo looks at the torn up book.

RIZZO
Uh-oh.

GONZO
What?

RIZZO
This page right here says Gatsby and Nick never meet again after this.

GONZO
Oh no. Gatsby must be moving west.

Gonzo and Rizzo shrug in agreement and return to the cottage.

EXT. GATSBY'S POOL - MORNING

Gatsby lays out a pool floatie and climbs atop it.

He plays out his banjo and hums along to "Kokomo" as he runs his hand through the water.

On the edge of frame, George Bear Wilson's legs walk towards the pool.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON (O.S.)
Waka-waka. Wanna hear a joke?

INT. NICK'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Nick looks in the mirror as he ties his tie.

Rizzo walks into the room still wearing a bathrobe and drinking coffee.

RIZZO
What's going on Nick? You got a date with Jordan this early?

NICK CARRAWAY
Fitz... we have jobs, I'm getting dressed for our job on Wall Street.

Gonzo yawns as he straggles in.

GONZO
Who has jobs?

BANG - A deafeningly loud pop rings out from Gatsby's estate.

Nick's face sinks.

NICK CARRAWAY
That came from Gatsby's.

He runs out the door and Rizzo and Gonzo follow.

EXT. GATSBY POOL - CONTINUOUS

Nick runs up and sees Gatsby floating face first and motionless in his pool.

NICK CARRAWAY
GATSBY! GATSBY!

Nick looks over and sees George Bear Wilson also lying motionless on a pool chair.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
GATSBY WAKE UP! GATSBY YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

Tears fall down Nick's face as he struggles towards a phone beside the pool.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
Don't do this--don't do this to me.

He dials for a number and picks up the receiver.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
Pick up Daisy, pick up!

INT. BUCHANAN SITTING ROOM - MORNING

Daisy sits by a large pile of luggage that Tom is piling up.

Her daughter PAMMY sits in her lap.

PAMMY
Are we going Mommy?

MISS DAISY
Only for a little while Pammy, you beautiful little fool.

PAMMY
(stern)
I'm not a *fool*.

Miss Daisy kisses her forehead and the phone suddenly rings.

Tom looks at it as if he is about to answer until Daisy shakes her head.

MISS DAISY
No more phone calls.

EXT. GATSBY'S POOL - MORNING

Nick's tears wet his hand.

He slams the receiver back into the phone and begins dialing a new one.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN (V.O.)
Hola, Wolfprawn speaking.

NICK CARRAWAY
Meyer! Something terrible has happened to Gatsby!

MEYER WOLFPRAWN (V.O.)
Uhh... I did not do it.

NICK CARRAWAY
No, I need you here right now! You're his oldest friend, I need someone who can make sense of this.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN (V.O.)
Uhh, chu know I am a lil' busy. If chu are sayin' what I think chu are sayin' then I say, celebrate a man when he is still here. After that, my rule is to let everything pass... Like Mr. Gatsby. Adios.

He hangs up.

Rizzo and Gonzo look on in worry as we see a MONTAGE of shots of Nick calling and hanging up the phone in frustration.

He sinks to the ground, nearing a full breakdown.

NICK CARRAWAY
No one wants to come! They came in droves for his party but now that the man is face down in his pool--

Scooter walks out, holding the remaining pages.

SCOOTER
Oh, I'm here.

NICK CARRAWAY
(annoyed)
You never left.

RIZZO
Hey, give me those!

Rizzo snatches the missing pages and speed reads them.

RIZZO (CONT'D)
Now THIS would have been useful information ten pages ago.

Scooter shrugs.

SCOOTER
Hey, I tried.

The phone rings and Nick quickly grabs for it.

Oddly enough, behind Nick we see Gatsby's body begin swimming to the edge to pull himself out of the pool.

NICK CARRAWAY
Yes! Hello, hello! Gatsby residence!

KLIPSPRINGER THE DOG (V.O.)
Hey, Klipspringer the dog. Sorry to hear about Gatsby. Anyway I, uhh, left my tennis shoes at the mansion. You think you could look--

Nick slams down the receiver and sinks into his knees.

NICK CARRAWAY
I wanted to get somebody for you Gatsby. I wanted...
(beat)
I will get somebody for you, Gatsby. Don’t worry. Just trust me and I’ll get somebody for you... Trust me...

Gatsby's wet feet walk next to Nick.

GATSBY THE FROG (O.S.)
Yeah, could you get somebody to get me a towel.

NICK CARRAWAY
GATSBY!

Nick jumps up and embraces him.

NICK CARRAWAY (CONT'D)
I thought I'd lost you, I thought Mr. Wilson had...

He looks over and see George Bear Wilson dressed like "Tony Montana" in the pool chair. He pops another champagne bottle, producing an identical "shot" noise to the one heard earlier.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
I came over cause every character but me had gotten to live the rich life - so why not George Bear Wilson? Now, I'm livin' it up!

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby, I saw you floating there--

GATSBY THE FROG
Well sure, I'm an amphibian. That's what we do.

Nick wipes the tears from his eyes. Something is overly dramatic about this "Oscar scene."

The lighting and music all feel like too much.

NICK CARRAWAY
I guess you can bring back the past.

Gonzo and Rizzo wipe their tears as well. Nick just poured (and acted) his heart out.

But... something is off with Gatsby. He stares at Nick, the way other characters normally would when he monologues but this time there is no monologue.

RIZZO
(whispered)
Does... Nick have a line here?

GONZO
No, it's Gatsby's. This is the happy ending.

KERMIT THE FROG sighs.

KERMIT THE FROG
Okay, yeah that's it - I quit.

EXT. GATSBY'S MANSION FILM SET - CONTINUOUS

Kermit walks off mark, again revealing the film crew with all their equipment and set screens.

DIRECTOR
Woah, woah, Kermit!

Panicked production assistants clear a path as Kermit pushes past lights and props.

NICK'S ACTOR stands dumbfounded as he watches Kermit go.

DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
Hey, don't break character we're gonna bring him back! Kermit baby, come on let's talk.

KERMIT THE FROG
No, I'm not coming back! I'll be in my trailer on the phone with my agent telling him I'm never doing another exploitive, soulless cash grab picture like this.

DIRECTOR
Kermit, baby, what movie isn't?

Kermit screams, waving his arms in the air.

KERMIT THE FROG
DON'T YOU SEE THE PROBLEM WITH WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE!? DID YOU PEOPLE EVEN READ THE BOOK, DON'T YOU SEE THE MESSAGE!

Silence. MISS PIGGY runs on set.

MISS PIGGY
Kermie? Kermie what is the mat-ter.

KERMIT THE FROG
Oh, uhh, hey Piggy. I'm just quitting the movie.

MISS PIGGY
WHAT!

FOZZIE BEAR lets out a realizing "Awww"

FOZZIE BEAR
Kermit is pulling a Christian Ba-leee.

MISS PIGGY
YOU BE QUITE!
(beat)
Kermie, is this because Daisy doesn't get with Gatsby at the end - you know that's not really how I feel.

KERMIT THE FROG
No Piggy, it's because no one should get with anyone at the end. EVERYONE HERE IS SO OBSESSED WITH BRINGING BACK THE PAST, THEY DIDN'T STOP TO ASK IF THEY SHOULD. THE MUPPETS AREN'T RELAVENT ANYMORE. NO ONE WANTS TO SEE THIS! AHHHHH!!!

Kermit runs off, arms flailing.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Andddd, that's lunch.

A bell rings and the crew breaks.

The main Muppets stand devastated as they see the door to Kermit's trailer slam shut.

GONZO
Wow, usually Kermit's existential breakdowns happens in the 2nd act.

RIZZO
Wait, what act are we in?

Everyone sighs. WALTER the Muppet pushes into the group.

WALTER
Guys, Kermit just had a bad day. Who could ever think The Muppets are irrelevant?

Everyone looks at Walter in equal confusion.

MISS PIGGY
Who are you?

Nick's actor grabs a script and reclines on one of the pool chairs. He refuses to acknowledge the others and looks hard at work, though tears still fall from his eyes.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS walks up, a sharp contrast from the woman she portrayed. While Jordan is coldly alluring, her actress is friendly and warm in a bubbly and excited way.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Rough day at the office?

NICK'S ACTOR
Easy for you to say, I can't turn off the tears you know - I work them up and then some amateur ruins the scene and I'm stuck looking like an idiot.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
You did not just call Kermit the Frog an amateur.

NICK'S ACTOR
He is if he's gonna act this way! What actor can make a scene like that and still have a career?

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Tom Cruise, Russel Crowe, Alec Baldwin, Mel Gibson, Dennis Quaid, you --

NICK'S ACTOR
(sly)
I am not making a scene.

Jordan's actress laughs.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
I haven't been in Hollywood as long as you have, you want to know why I joined up?

NICK'S ACTOR
Why?

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Because I saw the opportunity.

She holds up a copy of *The Great Gatsby* book.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS (CONT'D)
Says the same thing in this book, that's why Mayor Wolfman or whatever fixed the World's Series.

NICK'S ACTOR
He also wanted... Money.

Jordan's actress tosses the book down to Nick's actor.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Yes, I wanted this and I still can't believe I'm really here - but that doesn't mean I'm never sad or I'm never angry. Reaching your dream doesn't stop it from being a dream, it doesn't stop reality from being where you're really at.

Nick laughs through his teeth, a genuine laugh.

NICK'S ACTOR
Maybe you should have played Nick if you're gonna talk like that.

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Well you'd make an awful Jordan...
(beat)
Why'd you join, Hollywood that is? Was it your dream?

NICK'S ACTOR
Too much of what I saw in Hollywood was fake... I wanted to see something real. I wanted to actually feel what I saw on screen.

Jordan's actress looks up and winks at the other Muppets.

SAM EAGLE
Ready men! HEAVE!

They suddenly pick up Nick's pool chair and hold him up.

NICK'S ACTOR
Hey, hey! What are you guys doing?

GONZO
LAUNCH!

A HELPLESS SOUND GUY screams out.

HELPLESS SOUND GUY
Wait! He's still wearing a mic!

They launch Nick's chair into the pool and he immediately swims up, shivering.

The sound guy walks away, defeated.

HELPLESS SOUND GUY (CONT'D)
No one listens to sound.

NICK'S ACTOR
THAT'S COLD, THAT IS SO COLD!

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
That feel real for you?

He looks up and sees the cameras pointed at him, then glares directly into the main CAMERA.

NICK'S ACTOR
Yeah...
(beat)
Thanks, I needed that. Think we should do it to Kermit?

MISS PIGGY
That won't do Kermit any good, he's an *am-phi-bian*.

FOZZIE BEAR
What we want you to do to is talk to Kermit.

NICK'S ACTOR
Me?

JORDAN'S ACTRESS
Nobody cares about this movie more than you... and I know deep down you care about Kermit just as much. You wanted to see something real in Hollywood, so you worked with Kermit the Frog and the Muppets.
(MORE)

JORDAN'S ACTRESS (CONT'D)
(she sings)
It's time to play the music.
It's time to light the lights.

MUPPETS
It's time to meet the Muppets on
"The Muppet Show" tonight.

They all smile down at Nick.

He fights it, but can't help smiling back.

INT. KERMIT'S TRAILER - CONTINUOUS

Kermit sits in a trailer crowded with memorabilia and props of past movies and tv shows. Most prominent among them is a photo of Kermit with his creator, Jim Henson.

A polite knock at the door.

NICK'S ACTOR (O.S.)
Kermit?

Kermit grabs his banjo and begins to strum gently.

KERMIT THE FROG
Uhh, yeah sure, you can come in.

Nick's actor dries himself with a towel as he enters the trailer that is far too small for him.

KERMIT THE FROG (CONT'D)
Please, uhh, take a seat.

Nick's actor sits on a sofa that fits more like a one-seater.

Across from him, old clips from *The Muppet Show* play on a CRT television.

KERMIT THE FROG (CONT'D)
I suppose you're here to convince me to finish the picture.

NICK'S ACTOR
No.

KERMIT THE FROG
No? But I thought...

NICK'S ACTOR
Kermit...
(beat)
(MORE)

NICK'S ACTOR (CONT'D)
I wasn't gonna break character on this movie, my friends were calling me insane saying "Mate, it's a Muppet movie - get that Disney money and go."

Kermit politely chuckles.

KERMIT THE FROG
So... why didn't you?

NICK'S ACTOR
Because Nick Carraway was right. Who am I if I've gotten everything I wanted, who are you if you're not fighting for something.

KERMIT THE FROG
Yeah but, I don't think we're fighting for anything. This movie... kind of spits in the face of the book. The whole point Fitzgerald was making was that you can't bring back the past - you're only gonna suffer if you try. Best to let it be... The Muppets are a thing of the past, we can't keep up with all these streaming shows and new comic book blockbusters.
(sad)
There's no place for us now, not even in parody.

NICK'S ACTOR
You know *The Great Gatsby* took over twenty years to be a success. Fitzgerald actually died thinking he was an obscure and forgotten author.

KERMIT THE FROG
No, no I did not know that.
(beat)
How is that suppose to make me feel better?

NICK'S ACTOR
Gatsby only found popularity years after it was written because people became nostalgic for the past. No one in the 1920s wanted to read it because they were living it.
(MORE)

NICK'S ACTOR (CONT'D)
Fitzgerald finally got his message out through people just like Gatsby wanting to recapture the past.

KERMIT THE FROG
Huh, I never thought about it like that. It just, feels wrong to me is all. Like we haven't done anything since *Muppet Christmas Carol* that was that good so we might as well try to repeat the same thing again just like Star Wars and Disney live action reboots.

NICK'S ACTOR
Careful Kermit, Disney is producing this.

Nick holds up *The Great Gatsby* book, tossing it from hand to hand.

NICK'S ACTOR (CONT'D)
You know that part in the book about celebrating people while they're still here... I agree with it, but I also really don't. I don't want to live in the past, but that doesn't mean I want to forget it. We cut this out of our film, but in the book one of the only ones who shows up to Gatsby's funeral is his father - a father who Gatsby took care of but never spoke of. We gave Gatsby a happy ending in this film... and you don't see his father who loved him. Is that really a happy ending?

KERMIT THE FROG
That's right, that was my biggest problem from the start! I told the director that! We need to see his father.

NICK'S ACTOR
Kermit... We have seen your father.

Kermit looks over at the photo of him and Jim Henson.

The banjo chords of "Rainbow Connection" echo softly over the image.

KERMIT THE FROG
I miss him.

NICK'S ACTOR
I would have loved to have met him. He seemed like a great man. And that's my point. He's gone now, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't remember him. This...
(beat)
This is for and because of him, always.

CLOSE-UP: JIM HENSON'S FACE

KERMIT THE FROG
We've gotten so far from the start now... that people don't remember it. I don't know if I want to be part of something where people don't remember the start... I wish I could go back, I do.

NICK'S ACTOR
I know you do, but you can't Kermit. He's your green light, but there's more than one light.

Nick's actor points directly at CAMERA.

NICK'S ACTOR (CONT'D)
You're my green light and the green light of so many watching right now. We grew up with you, your films and shows raised us when our parents weren't around or when we were feeling lonely - You were always there for us, inspiring us to learn about new things and love what was strange and that we didn't understand.

Kermit laughs at this, a happy and genuine laugh.

KERMIT THE FROG
Well, it isn't easy being green.

NICK'S ACTOR
You helped make me who I am, Jim made you - and you've made the lives of so many others special. Look at them Kermit, I know you just see a camera lens but they're out there!

CLOSE-UP: KERMIT'S FACE LOOKING INTO CAMERA

KERMIT THE FROG
No, I see them... I've always seen them.

NICK'S ACTOR
The green light is a dream. You may feel like it's fake but this moment isn't in the past or the future, this moment is happening right now. What do you want to say to them Kermit?

KERMIT THE FROG
I want to say I've always loved you guys... and that there was a man named Jim Henson who would have loved you too.
(beat)
That's why I still do this, that's why I have to.
I love you.

Kermit jumps up, spinning in the air.

KERMIT THE FROG (CONT'D)
Yippee, you're right! So what if Gatsby is supposed to have a sad ending! The world needs some happy ones right now.

Kermit and Nick's actor hug.

NICK'S ACTOR
Kermit, if you ever want to talk about the past I'm here for you.

KERMIT THE FROG
But I can't bring it back, I know. I just want to create something important now.

EXT. FILM SET - CONTINUOUS

The director speaks with Kermit's nephew ROBIN THE FROG.

DIRECTOR
Okay, so with Kermit out I think I'm going to give you the role of Gatsby. Can you handle this?

ROBIN
I want 15% of the net gross, not net profit - hear me?

Kermit flings his trailer door open and steps out with Nick's actor.

KERMIT THE FROG
Hey everyone, let's shoot a movie! YAAAAYYYYY!

The film crew and Muppets cheer.

Nick's actor looks out and sees Jordan's actress who winks with a smile.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Now, where were we?

EXT. GATSBY'S DOCK - SUNSET

Nick steps into a paddle boat with Gonzo and Rizzo, the faint green light flashes behind him.

RIZZO
Look Gerald, it's the boat.

GONZO
I... didn't think it was literal.

RIZZO
(heavy sigh)
It is in the this movie.

Gatsby and George Bear Wilson watch from the shore.

NICK CARRAWAY
Sure you won't sail back west with us?

GATSBY THE FROG
Thanks, but with everyone thinking I'm dead I can finally have some peace. George and I are gonna put on a two man show together.

GEORGE BEAR WILSON
I'll finally have my American dream.

Nick laughs slyly at this.

Gonzo undoes the rope to the dock.

NICK CARRAWAY
I hope you do. After all that's what America is about, not what we are but what we can become.
(beat)
What about Daisy?

GATSBY THE FROG
Well, if she ever comes in to see our show she'll have a few laughs.

NICK CARRAWAY
Gatsby... is this how you'd thought it'd end?

GATSBY THE FROG
But this isn't the end Nick. Life isn't a book you open and close - you write it yourself.
Start writing old sport.

The boat pulls away.

EXT. LONG ISLAND BAY - CONTINUOUS

Nick rows off as the others wave to Gatsby.

Nick sings the finale song called "American Dream."

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
What color is the American Dream?

Sam Eagle passes by in his plane.

SAM EAGLE
Is it red, white and blue?

Tom passes by in a fancy boat as he counts money.

TOM BUCHANAN
Or perhaps it is green.

NICK CARRAWAY
Does it come in different sizes?

Bobo the Bear passes in a boat that appears to be sinking.

BOBO THE BEAR
I know I do.

Meyer Wolfprawn passes by in a yacht filled with party girls.

MEYER WOLFPRAWN
Don't ask me, but it's full of su'prises.

NICK CARRAWAY
Is it real or is it bust,
I just want to know what I can trust.
Is there an American Dream for me?
Is there a promise that somewhere,
I can be free?

Sam Eagles wipes a tear from his eye.

SAM EAGLE
Beautiful.

Jordan jumps off Tom's boat and into Nick's.

JORDAN
But you can't be free in the past!
You can't have a dream that'll la-aa-st!

Boats of all sizes converge on the bay now.

CHORUS
The American dream, is it truth or lie?
It would be really nice to know before we say good-bye!
I want so many things but I still have doubt!
What's the moral of this story, even about?

RIZZO
Ohhh, I get it now. The east represents the past and the west represents the future.

GONZO
No.

RIZZO
No! What do you mean no?

GONZO
The American dream is up to you to decide, Gatsby had everything except Daisy so he still didn't have his dream despite his wealth. There, are you happy?

A long pause from Rizzo over the music.

RIZZO
So the eyes were God or the viewers themselves?

GONZO
Oh, for the love of--

CHORUS
For the love of the American dream!
My fellow citizens smile and beam.
Our economic system will never collapse,
So all of us in the future will be millionaires perhaps?
We're gonna party like Jay Gatsby because that's what he'd want!
We don't misunderstand, we don't mean to taunt.
The American dream is coming and it's coming fast!

Nick pulls off from the other rich yachts and boats which have now began to crash into each other during this overly complicated musical number.

NICK CARRAWAY (V.O.)
Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that’s no matter — tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther.... And one fine morning——
So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.

Nick's actor looks into CAMERA and grins with a laugh.

NICK'S ACTOR
Yeah, I see you out there.

FLASH TO GREEN:

DIRECTOR (O.S.)
And cut it! Let's go again, I think mic was in picture.

Groans from the Muppets and crew. Kermit and Nick's actor can be heard laughing together.

END